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JANUARY 1, 1929

NO. 1

THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL TOUR OF 1928
I. PARIS

THEODORE WESLEY KOCH

WHAT A REFERENCE LIBRARIAN EXPECTS
OF THE CATALOG

ELIZABETH G. HENRY

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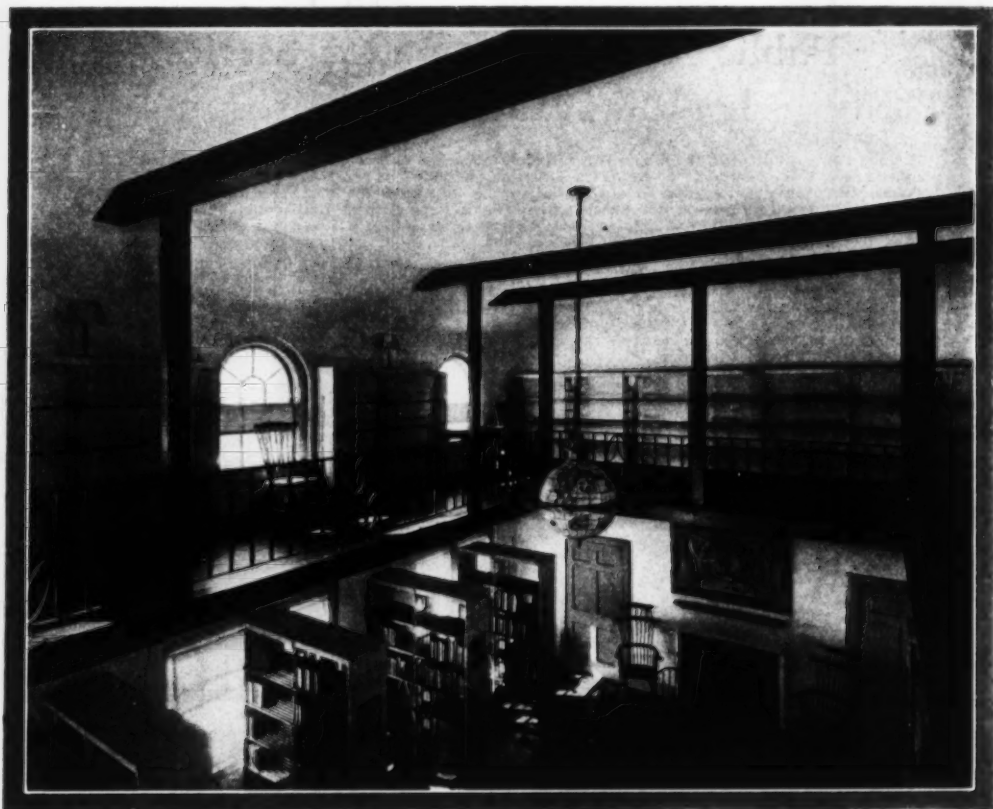
~ THE LIBRARY JOURNAL ~

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

~ JANUARY 1, 1929 ~

The Bibliographical Tour of 1928

By Théodore Wesley Koch

Librarian, Northwestern University

THERE have been several groups of American librarians visiting in Europe of recent years, but the Bibliographical Tour of 1928, which I had the honor of directing for the School of Foreign Travel, differed from the others in a number of respects. In the first place, it was educational, with addresses and lectures planned in advance. Secondly, it was in no sense official. There were no delegates, no representatives sent by this or that library. Everyone in the group of twenty went with the idea of seeing as much of the European libraries as practicable.

With the thought that an account of some of the libraries visited, a summary of some of the addresses heard and historical notes about some of the exhibits seen might be of help to librarians planning to take a European tour in connection with the International Library meeting in Rome this coming June, I give here a synopsis of some of the things learned on our Tour.

The group had its first meeting on June 29th at a luncheon given by Mr. Alfred Hafner at the Hotel Brevoort, New York, when speeches were made by Dr. Frank P. Hill and Miss Theresa Hitchler of the Brooklyn Public Library and Mr. Frederic Melcher of the *Publishers' Weekly*. We then adjourned for a visit and tea at the Grolier Club. We sailed the next day on the S.S. *Lituanian*, on which there were a dozen other tours under the management of the School of Foreign Travel. Our program on board boat consisted of a lecture every morning by Professor Gazeley of Dartmouth on modern European history and another one in the afternoon by Professor Laity of Rutgers on European art and architecture. Library conferences were held every day immediately after lunch.

I—In Paris

Our first stop was Paris, where after one day's sightseeing we began our visits to libraries with the Bibliothèque Nationale. Here we were received by M. Roland-Marcel, the administrative head, who showed us over the institution from top to bottom. We were shown the old oblong reading room, now lit by electricity, the generously spaced stacks and the new oval reading room, which is to be used for current periodicals and which it is hoped can be opened in 1930. Here will be centered the immediate service of the principal French and foreign periodicals, and the systematic abstracting of articles which will constitute another bibliographic connection between the Library and other institutions. Here, too, will be installed a bureau where information can be had on material contained in the other libraries of Paris, so that the serious investigator may be directed to special collections of interest to him, no matter where located.

By means of the Bulletin, which, as formerly published, related solely to the Bibliothèque Nationale, but now contains lists of accessions to the affiliated libraries of Paris, cards for which are incorporated in the catalog of the Bibliothèque Nationale, readers at the latter institution can themselves ascertain the location of some of the new foreign books which may not be available in the Rue Richelieu. This union catalog work has been begun recently, and it is hoped to continue it as funds become available. Thanks to a recent "consortium," the relations with the other libraries, with universities and foreign institutions, are much closer than hitherto. It has resulted in the receipt of numerous gifts, not by chance

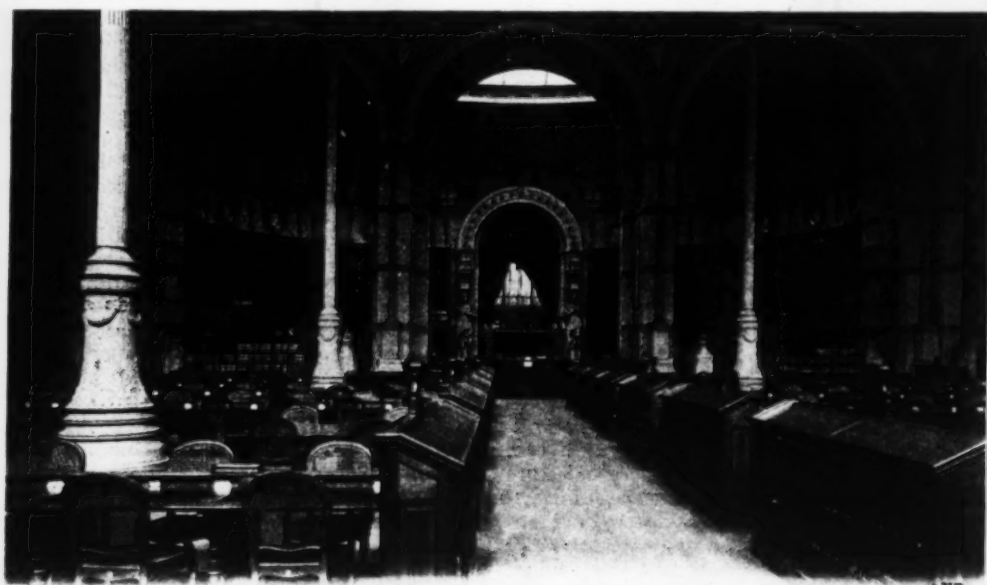
but along lines of a definite program. In addition there have been advantageous exchanges effected without any impoverishment of resources. The relations with foreign libraries and institutions have developed to considerable proportions. The number of correspondents is now approximately eight hundred. The gifts and exchanges received are of increasing value. M. Roland-Marcel is of the opinion that if all the libraries of Paris would group their requests and their respective offers, each would obtain the maximum of gifts.

In 1925 the library decided to make a provisional catalog by photographic means of the author entries from M to Z and of the anonymous entries from A to Z. This catalog will be ready for installation in the Reading Room by the fall of 1929 and will form a much-needed supplement to the printed catalog in book form, which cannot be completed for years to come. Five foreign libraries have subscribed to a set of these photographic copies of the catalog entries. If the library receives the additional grants it is hoping for, it will be able to print five volumes of the general catalog per year. In this connection M. Roland-Marcel was most enthusiastic in his praise for what Dr. C. C. Williamson and his committee are doing in the United States toward furthering the publication of the general catalog.

As stated in the last report of the Bibliothèque Nationale, more than twenty kilometers of shelving in the buildings in the Rue Richelieu, encumbered with inferior publications

which need to be preserved only for copyright purposes, are now ready to be freed of their burden. This number could be increased by twelve kilometers of duplicates and triplicates of which the inventory has just been completed. M. Roland-Marcel advocates the erection at Versailles of a common depot for books and periodicals which are rarely, if ever, consulted. The transfer and rearrangement of such material transferred from the Bibliothèque Nationale and other libraries of Paris would consume much time and labor. On his recent visit to the United States M. Roland-Marcel studied with interest American library book stacks with a view to solving his housing problem.

We were interested to see the exhibit of American etchers. This is one of a series of exhibits which M. Roland-Marcel has staged within the last few years. In 1926 he had one devoted to the Middle Ages. He said that nearly 48,000 visitors stopped to look at this selection of their medieval manuscripts, bindings, woodcuts, early illustrated books, medals and coins, ivories and other precious objects. "And what moved us," said he, "was not so much the commendation of the connoisseurs, the scholars and the artists as the approbation of the artisans, the workmen, who the last two Sundays came in large numbers to lean over the miniatures and the enchanting ornamentation of the manuscripts. It seemed that there was revealed to them, by means of technical skill and honesty of work which they greatly



AKR

Famous Reading Room of the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris

admired, the most original, noble and charming expression of the genius of our race."

This exhibit, like others, was supported by the Société of Friends of the National Library. It brought together into coordinated groups, not only exceptional pieces borrowed from the libraries of the Chamber of Deputies, the Arsenal, the Mazarine, Sainte-Geneviève, Dijon and the Cluny Museum, but also splendid tapestries belonging to the Gobelin manu-

foreign as well as French periodicals. The public interest which this and the other exhibits called forth accrued to the benefit of the Library. They served to establish another point of contact with the general public, sometimes by recalling an historical episode in its international aspect, sometimes by aiding a society of artists whose members in turn contribute each year to the development of the Print Department.



Stack Rooms, Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris

factory and the Museum of Decorative Arts. Another exhibit was devoted to Italian books. With the help of the authorities of the Louvre and of the Mobilier National there were grouped numerous manuscripts, parchments, bindings, drawings, medals and maps dating from the fourteenth century to the end of the Renaissance. All were framed in by an array of sumptuous tapestries either belonging to the Library or borrowed from other national collections. While this exhibit not only revealed the wealth of possessions in this field of Italian books and manuscripts and surprised even the specialists in this field, yet it did not call forth the passionate interest and enthusiasm which the French miniatures had evoked three months earlier, for their national pride has been touched.

Even more successful was an exhibit relating to the Age of Louis XIV, which was installed in the Mazarine Gallery. It was visited by a total of 52,000 people, and was the subject of numerous articles and studies in

For the coming year M. Roland-Marcel is planning an exhibit relating to American libraries, in which will be shown not only views of typical public, college and university library buildings, but also photographs of various kinds of departmental work, and graphs showing the growth of various phases of library service.

Interesting and profitable were our visits to the library of the Institut, where we were addressed by the Director; to the American Library, where we were welcomed by Mr. Burton E. Stevenson, and to the Library School, where Miss Mary Parsons, the assistant director, talked to us about the work which the school had accomplished, and of her hopes for the future. Afterward we were entertained at a tea in the kitchen back of number 10 rue de l'Élysée, which has been the scene of so much delightfully informal hospitality.

As we were busy sightseeing all day, we reserved for the evening some of the talks

which had been promised us. M. and Mme. Edouard Champion entertained us most delightfully at their home, where M. Champion showed us his precious library of some four hundred manuscripts of modern French writers, including *The Crime of Sylvestre Bonnard*, by Anatole France; a notebook in which Balzac had jotted down notes and ideas for stories and novels; pieces by De Musset, Paul Verlaine, Pierre Loti, Emile Zola and many others.

Another evening we were the guests of M. and Mme. Abel Doysié. M. Doysié has for a number of years represented the Library of Congress in the work of transcribing such documents in the Parisian archives and libraries as contain material relating to the history of the United States. This work was begun in 1914, when Mr. Waldo G. Leland, at that time connected with the Department of Historical Research of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, handed to M. Doysié the first lists of the documents to be transcribed in Series C13A of the Ministry of Colonies relating to French colonization in the French territory known as Louisiana, which in the eighteenth century included practically all of the Mississippi basin. Later M. Doysié and his assistants copied all the other series relating to the same territory in the Bibliothèque Nationale, the Service Hydrographique de la Marine, the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal and other archives. They transcribed also numerous documents relating to the British Colonies in America, and on the War of Independence, completing what the Library of Congress already possessed from French diplomatic sources. Next came the transcribing of documents relating to the French colony of Santo Domingo. Desirous of having their transcripts resemble as closely as possible the documents themselves, they followed the arrangement of the latter with respect to marginalia and addenda, as well as preserving the original spelling. At the top of the first page space was left for a heading in red ink, giving the contents of the document, the date, names of the author and of the person addressed. The archives' number was written in ink in the upper left-hand corner. Explanations added by the copyist were pencilled between brackets. The folios were also numbered in pencil.

Detailed inventory lists, reproducing all the headings and giving useful information in the case of undated or unsigned documents, were sent along with the transcripts. There were also index cards furnished—one for the author, one for the person addressed and one for the subject.

Altho this method of transcribing documents was the most satisfactory to foreign

scholars unfamiliar with the old French orthography and handwriting, it was considered slow and liable to error in spite of careful collating. Therefore, in April 1927, the Library of Congress started reproducing documents by the photostat process. A beginning was made with documents in the Archives Nationales relating to the War of Independence. Next came the little known correspondence relative to the French Navy of that period, and then the numerous papers concerning d'Estaing's operations. In 1928 they began reproducing by photostat the manuscripts relating to America found in the Bibliothèque Nationale. Meanwhile a new process was inaugurated in the Archives Nationales and in the diplomatic archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This new process reproduces all the pages of a manuscript volume on a non-inflammable film, from which black-on-white enlargements are made of each page. This facilitates the reading of the documents. The results are clearer and more pleasing than the photostats. The document films may be projected on a screen to illustrate lectures.

Both the photostats and the film enlargements show at the top of the page the archives' number of the document as well as the name of the depository. A folio number is also added when it does not appear on the original document. Inventory lists and index cards are also made for the photostat copies and the films. The films are preserved in cans which bear the archives' number.

When the binding of a document does not permit the camera to photograph the ends of the lines, the missing letters are added by hand.

With a group the size of ours, we found it advantageous to charter a motor-bus for such long trips as the all-day visits to Versailles and to Fontainebleau. At the Chateau of Fontainebleau we naturally sought out with special interest the Gallery of Diana, in which is housed the library of some 30,000 volumes. Napoleon Bonaparte found this *chef-d'oeuvre* almost entirely destroyed. In 1810 he undertook to have the gallery restored. The window sash had disappeared, and water came in on all sides. More than 700,000 francs were devoted to the work of restoration which went on until it was completed in 1826. Louis XVIII had put over the doors in golden letters an audacious inscription to the effect that this gallery had been completed in the twenty-eighth year of his reign. This inscription was later removed. The gallery had served as a dining hall for great banquets in the time of Charles X and of Louis-Philippe. Here were given the great dinners on the occasion of the marriage of the Duc d'Orléans in 1837. The room was transformed into a library by Napoleon III in 1859.

Subscription Books

By Grace Kerr

Chief of the Book Order Department, Public Library, Indianapolis, Ind.

TO those of us who spend many of our waking hours working with books in public libraries, avidly reading books we find there or in our homes or in bookstores, and learning about new books in the endless review mediums we must peruse or perish—nearly all inspired through “regular trade” channels, the subscription book field is a vague unexplored region. Some time in the course of our careers most of us have been warned about its perils or pitfalls, but it is not until an aroused interest and curiosity, or perhaps a request to write a paper, drive us to investigate conditions somewhat that we discover with amazement the vast extent and variety of this vigorous and far-reaching arm of book distribution activities. The 1928 *American Book Trade Directory* lists no less than 162 subscription book concerns in the United States, either independent companies or subscription departments of well-known publishing houses, selling their product through canvassing agents, through advertising in magazines and newspapers, or through direct solicitation of individual “prospects” by mail, or a combination of all three methods, and, in some cases, through the regular book agencies as well. Selling methods vary from control by the original publishers directly or thru district and local representatives—an organization often complex enough—to a bewildering labyrinth of distributing agencies, sales of plates and copyright to other publishers or jobbers who have quite different ideas, and who apparently feel free to change titles, number of volumes and binding, and revise the text, until in the case of many sets now on the market it takes an expert librarian indeed, and a patient one, to trace them to their origins. A subscription book that does not sell well over a hundred thousand copies is counted a failure, and Mr. Haldeman-Julius has just published an account of his first hundred million; the inference that there will be other hundred millions to follow seems quite credible. In between these figures are those for the enormous sales of the lectures of Stoddard and of Burton Holmes, Lord’s Beacon Lights of History, the Five-Foot Shelf and many other famous collections, figures at first thought startling to those of us who are accustomed to thinking in terms of regular trade best-sellers—and a little disconcerting, too, when we ponder on our struggles to coax

people within our portals to secure books with no dollar down and dollar a minute attachments. Mass production and intensive selling over nation-wide areas are now the mainstays of a business that has flourished in this country for over 125 years, and will probably be a force to be reckoned with for years to come. It is true a goodly number of people will go of their own volition, or can be persuaded to go to libraries and bookstores and obtain books; many remain, however, to prove the truth of the saying that there are precisely two really effective ways of selling books, to compel people to buy as we do with some textbooks, or to prohibit them from buying, as we do, with banned books; either method is equally efficacious, and the subscription publishers seem to have taken for their own and practically mastered the compelling method. Theirs is a business that seems to shout for superlatives in describing it; it has been extolled as a pioneer missionary project, bringing the blessing of books to the bookless, and anathematized as a complete history of crime, exploiting the ignorance and credulity of the people—the one description quite as ludicrous and fantastic as the other.

The animadversions of retailers anent the activities of book agents in their vicinity have occupied much space in trade paper columns for many years. The established bookseller, with his high overhead, the necessity of keeping on hand a large and constantly renewed stock of books from many publishers, sold to him at moderate discounts, of maintaining a reputation for fair dealing in his community and of waiting for his customers to come to him, has usually looked askance at the subscription book agent, who, even if he makes no misrepresentations, apparently enjoys so many advantages; he sponsors only one book or set at a time, backing it against the whole body of literature, sacred and profane; has no payroll or other fixed charges to meet and no capital invested; and his commissions often equal, or many times exceed, the customary regular trade discounts. On the other hand, the subscription man believes decidedly that with an estimated population of twenty-five thousand in this country for every existing bookstore, there should be room enough for all book distributors; that there is nothing to prevent a retailer from taking the agency in

his community for one or more subscription books if he has the desire and the time to push them; that direct sales have been followed by an increase in buying in the retail stores, not a decrease; and that frequently, before one sale is made, the pleasure of owning books, particularly, of course, the work being sold, has been expertly laid before twelve or more families, many of whom, as a result of such talks, may possibly be inspired to visit bookstores sometime. If only books of worth were the subject of such exchanges, librarians would have much sympathy with this latter argument, for they, too, in their time, have been regarded as dangers, and about 1895, were supposed to be in league with the fearsome bicycle to bring about the doom of the retail book business; they, too, have preached for many years the belief that the more agencies that exist for the exaltation of reading good books, the greater the demand will be from all available sources. Unfortunately, however, as all of us have discovered, subscription books are not always good books.

Strictly speaking, a subscription book is one for which subscriptions are taken in advance of publication, and in the case of genuine, limited sets only the number subscribed for are printed, or a very few more, and the type is then distributed. Practically, however, the term is an elastic one, and includes in general all publications whose first sale is to private buyers as distinguished from dealers; of course there is nothing to prevent buyers from selling at auction or to second-hand dealers, and when direct sales have diminished bound volumes or sheets, or plates are frequently sold by the publishers themselves. Some of the very choicest books issued by the American press, expensive or medium in price, can be sold to much better advantage through the aid of a corps of well-trained and experienced canvassers; these books include among others genuinely beautiful works of art, and handsomely printed and bound editions of standard authors. The generally admirable output of the recently organized commercial book clubs, sold by subscription and also in the regular trade, is too well known to need comment. A third class of subscription books includes the larger reference works of undoubted intrinsic worth—large standard encyclopedias, and the extensive biographical and scientific sets—many of which could not be financed by any other method; in this class belong the monumental *Dictionary of American Biography*, now in process of publication, and the thirteenth edition of the *Britannica*, with a fourteenth just announced. This latter publication, by the way, has furnished a long chapter in the records of the subscription book business, with 150

years' history of editing and publishing and selling in England and America and all over the world, a history rich in interest and surprising incidents. Some of us recall the whirlwind advertising carried on from November, 1910, to May, 1911, for the eleventh edition, resulting in 32,000 advance orders for the 29-volume set, 928,000 individual volumes—a colossal first order for a serious work. During this seven month period it was said between \$700,000 and \$800,000 were spent, and one ingenious editor stated that if all the advertising used were slit into column widths and then pasted together, the piece of copy put out on the final day, May 31, would be dangling near the moon, thus subjecting that faithful satellite to the untried delights of a national campaign. In addition to the classes of books already mentioned, there is also a market in the subscription field of the encyclopedias primarily for young people; compilations of literary and educational material of varying merit, the large atlases, important business services, the minor general encyclopedias, also many outstanding ones on special subjects; sets of standard authors in mediocre or inferior makeup, many editions of the Bible and other religious works; biographies and county histories, good and bad; memoirs of all descriptions, those of French court beauties to those of stern Civil War generals; and last and not least, and usually worthless except as scrapbook information, those books of "timely interest" that appear almost before the event; so timely, in fact, that such an accessory as an author cannot be considered, and scissors and paste must take his place, as clippings are marshalled into some kind of order and a so-called book is evolved in high haste. Such publications were issued at the time of the Florida disaster and Lindbergh's famous flight and were sold in unbelievable quantities.

Among the thousands of men and women now engaged in the selling end of the subscription book game it is inevitable that all varieties of human nature should be represented, and as dwellers in a sphere where laughter is longed for and victims feel no call to be merciful, it is inevitable that a certain type of book agent should have been given more publicity than his actual existence in any numbers probably justifies. Most of us have heard him designated variously, according to the vocabulary and lung capacity and sex of our mentors, all the way from a "pest" to the more polite but just as deadly "purveyor of typographical mediocrity," while we understand that many other names applied to him may well be termed "out of print." Some of the more frivolous of our band enjoyed a few years ago, under Keith-Albee auspices, listening to a real old-time book

agent, long and thin and clad in deep black, featuring a Prince Albert coat and tall hat, who laid a huge volume on a table and proceeded to hold his audience spellbound, as all good book agents should, with his impassioned panegyric on the "Enzyklopedia zal Hepatica"—"a looze-leaf enzyklopedia," as demonstrated by a resounding blow that sent the pages of the tome in all directions, and with copious illustration and comment he took us all the way from A and Ananias through Z and the Zodiac, earnestly assuring us that this masterpiece of the ages could not be bought in bookstores, but only from him, "by subscription." We still meet this traditional book agent off stage also, for tho his tribe is rapidly vanishing it is still active in the land. We greet this man politely as he approaches our desk unannounced on our busy day, and assures us that in a very few moments it will be possible to give one of our rare mentality a comprehensive grasp of the epoch-making nature of the literature he brings to our attention. The few moments become many, and multiply, and we must concentrate on what we have read of sales talk psychology and try to recognize the subtle tactics being used upon us, in order to dispel the deep gloom we feel slowly descending, and get what fun we may out of life for an hour or so. Sometimes, heedless of bitter past experience, we timidly try to stem the tide by remarking that we crave to ask a few questions, go over circulars, etc., and think—in solitude; whereat with a wild look the thread of the interrupted discourse is hurriedly sought for, not found, and finally is taken up from the beginning again, so that our last state is worse than our first. Hard-boiled though many of us have become, we generally end by mildly listening to all that can be told.

This type of agent, however, is an anachronism. The better class of subscription houses, or subscription departments of large publishing firms, never employed, or have long since dispensed with this "strong-arm" method of selling, and have put in the field well-informed, pleasant, business-like people, many of them from the ranks of educators who make their friendly attitude to libraries plain and often bring to us valuable information and a fresh outlook. The subscription business can boast a roster of distinguished and picturesque figures among its ranks, and its annals, if adequately recorded, would doubtless make a most entertaining contribution to history, literary and otherwise. Napoleon Bonaparte once took the agency from Boulanger for a work entitled, *L'Histoire de la Revolution*, being assigned a suburban Paris division, a smaller territory than he had requested. In the foyer of the great palace of the Louvre can be seen, under

a glass case, the little canvasser's outfit, and the long list of names which his assiduity secured. We are told how Bismarck, when at Heidelberg during a winter vacation, having had his allowance cut short, canvassed for one of Blumenbach's handbooks. George Washington, while surveying Fairfax County in his youth, was a book agent, selling *The American Savage*; how he may be tamed by the weapons of civilization," and many years later his life was written by a book agent, Mason Locke Weems, who immortalized and probably invented the cherry tree myth. This biography, we may note in passing, is mentioned by the late Senator Beveridge as one of the few books that Abraham Lincoln had in his boyhood, and he read it again and again. Weems, as Milton Waldman tells us in the *American Mercury*, was the greatest and most versatile book agent the world has ever known, a raconteur of parts, an evangelist, a lecturer, a fiddler, and a parlor entertainer extraordinary. In his autobiography, P. T. Barnum speaks of what seemed to him a decided advance into a life of respectability when he was appointed general agent for the United States for *Scars Pictorial Illustrations of the Bible*, in 1841; his peculiar genius did not shine with its usual luster in the subscription business, however, and he tells us that, though he sold thousands of books, by placing them in the hands of irresponsible agents his capital and profit unfortunately disappeared. Mark Twain was at one time actively engaged in the subscription book business; many of his own works were sold in this way, and today complete sets are still sold widely by subscription as well as through the regular trade. It was largely through his efforts that General Grant's *Memoirs*, sold by subscription, realized a comfortable and even luxurious competence for his family. In recent times, of course, many noted men have helped out a college career, and have incidentally gained a knowledge of human nature and how to deal with it persuasively that has helped them all their lives. Perhaps you have been a book agent yourself.

A field offering such vast possibilities naturally attracts the unscrupulous profiteer as well as the honorable business man who respects himself and others, and some of the abuses practiced have become alarmingly prevalent. The very longing of thousands of parents to give their children advantages they themselves have never enjoyed, and their willingness to go without the necessities of life if the children will benefit thereby, have been mercilessly exploited by the introduction into countless homes of worthless so-called "educational" sets, sold as representing the best in the literary and school world. Spurious "lim-

ited" editions have been sold to the indiscriminating in unlimited quantities; and standard author sets, poorly printed but flamboyantly bound, have masqueraded as worthy examples of the bookmaker's art. As lovers of the good, the true and the beautiful in books, librarians deeply deplore such practices, but do not as a rule suffer directly from them. Our principal indictments are probably the following: First, misrepresentation as to the price of sets offered, and the value of book premiums or extension services offered with them; this refers to the frequently used device of stating that an extra set of books, upon which an entirely fictitious value is placed, will be given free if the set being sold is taken; or of stating that the set itself will be given free, if the recipient subscribes to an extension service, to be continued for some years and to cost from \$30 to \$60 or considerably more, when, as a matter of fact, the sum asked would amply cover the cost of both books and service, even if the latter were actually delivered, which is sometimes not the case. Second, the misuse of testimonials, a sad subject which will not be enlarged upon here. Third, misrepresentation as to authorship and date of compilation. Most of us have frequently experienced considerable difficulty when we tried to discover what part the eminent men and women whose names appear on title-pages actually took in editing or compiling their works; and we have also been misled by the omission of early copyright dates, when only the latest is specified on the verso of the title-page, although the set has had a long career of revisions. Fourth, the ever-present changed title problem. We have all met with the set of books offered under a title new to us, which proves upon examination to be one of our old pets, or pet aversions, masquerading under a second, third or even a fourth name. This change may have been made by the original publishers, or by others who have purchased the plates of an old or unpopular set whose sale has diminished, have added enough new material to secure a new copyright date, and have then issued the set as a new work. There are, of course, other practices that make us more or less trouble, but enough have been enumerated for our purpose.

The encouraging thing about the situation is that a decided move toward stopping fraud of all kinds was made by the outstanding subscription firms themselves, when they organized some ten years ago the Subscription Book Publishers' Association, with reform as its avowed purpose. Before the organization was disrupted by dissension within its ranks last year, at least two very definite things were accomplished. The services of the National Better Business Bureau were enlisted and complaints

of sharp or dishonest practice were given wide publicity, both in the national bulletins and those issued by local bureaus; and at the request of the Association, in May, 1924, a Trade Practices Submittal was held before the Federal Trade Commission, whose principal function is the study of unfair methods of competition in interstate commerce. Here, before one of the commissioners, various abuses were cited and commented on by delegates from twenty-five of the leading firms, representing a majority of the business transacted in the United States; later the publishers, in a meeting of their own, adopted a set of resolutions to be submitted to the Commission, condemning a number of these practices, in whole or in part. Through the courtesy of the F. E. Compton Company, I have a copy of the proceedings of this meeting, and after reading detailed discussions of many points raised, including two that finally resolved themselves into debates on "When Is a Premium Not a Premium," and "When Is an Editor Not an Editor," accompanied by the most widely varying opinions as to what constitutes ethical practice on each question, it is borne in upon one that the difficulties in the way of a platform of reform are far from simple, and one must not expect the fruit of an effort toward completely truthful and intelligent representation to ripen more quickly than is usual in the course of nature.

There are signs in the heavens, and in Chicago, that our own national association is considering a modification of its policy of ignoring the existence of the subscription book problem. A Committee to consider it was appointed last year, and continued for 1927-28, with Miss Julia Ideson, of the Houston, Texas, Public Library as chairman; Indiana is represented on this Committee by Miss Carrie E. Scott. A thoughtful and constructive report was submitted, and it was suggested among other points that libraries be furnished with information regarding subscription sets thru the national office and that they be encouraged to offer information to their committees. While action is pending, realizing that the problem is in all probability to receive some special attention for the next few years, we shall want to inform ourselves about what has been done and to keep in touch with developments. I would suggest that you send for a file of the Subscription Books Bulletin of the Pacific Northwest Library Association, if you do not already have it, and give a little time to study of the analyses of a number of subscription sets now on the market. In the issue of January, 1922, reprinted in the *Booklist* for May, 1922, will be found a list of points for judging subscription books, which

should be kept in mind as you go through the bulletins, and if you will then examine one or two of the sets already in your own collection, with these criteria in mind, you will almost certainly become interested in the problems involved, and you will not need to be urged to give a little time when possible to the claims of agents who come to your library.

It cannot be disputed that the interests of peace and quiet and assured safety will be furthered by simply saying "I never talk to book agents," or "I never buy subscription books," but a well-informed, firm, and withal friendly attitude is surely more in accordance with our ideals. If we are careful not to give the impression that we may buy subscription books in cases where all we want is information, but on the contrary make it plain from the first that there are few we need or cannot wait for until they appear in the remainder or second-hand trade at reduced prices; that we never buy on a first interview, and always need time to go over any printed descriptive matter that can be left with us, to write to other libraries, and when possible examine sets personally; that we never give testimonials nor accept subscription sets from agents as gifts; and that we do not believe it our province to oppose purchases about which our advice is asked by readers, but only to make sure they know about what is available in the class of books or the subject in which they are interested, so that they can themselves make an intelligent decision—we shall then

have taken most of the precautions suggested by prudence. After we have investigated these books and have come to our conclusion, it will be well to make sure our reasons are clear and definite, to make full notes for future reference, and then, if the decision must be adverse to make a real effort to make our position clear to the agent. It is surprising to find how often a judicial but frank statement will be taken in a fine spirit and even appreciated, and we are spared the uncomfortable feeling that an agent who thinks he has been summarily and unjustly treated is perhaps spreading an unfriendly feeling toward the library as he goes from door to door in our community.

The problem of subscription books is a real one, and we all hope something constructive, on a nation-wide scale, can be done toward solving it in the near future. In the meantime, intelligent interest is sure to help, and as you try to give the question some attention in your busy lives, you will find it one of the most baffling but entertaining chapters in the history of the game we are all playing—the distribution of books and the promotion of reading. And in all our study of the question, let us keep to the purpose with which Bacon tells us to read, "not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find talk and discourse; but to weigh and consider."

This paper was read before the Indiana Library Association on November 23, 1928.

What a Reference Librarian Expects of the Catalog

By Elizabeth G. Henry

Reference Assistant, Public Library, Seattle, Wash.

YOU will think, when I finish, that the title of this paper has been a misnomer, or that I have managed to go beyond my subject. It should have been entitled, "What a reference librarian would like to expect of the catalog," for undoubtedly some of my suggestions will be found impractical, nay, even impossible by catalogers.

And one more word of explanation and apology before I begin. You will find, since my experience has only been in the reference department of a large public library, that my remarks are based upon that experience and may not apply in all instances to reference departments and catalogs of smaller libraries.

It seems to me that a reference librarian and a catalog should be the best of friends, for they are quite necessary to each other, and their

thorough knowledge and understanding of each other help the patrons in the use of the library.

For, in spite of the seeming simplicity to us of a dictionary catalog, it is far from simple to the layman. The catalog needs interpretation and its interpreters are the reference librarians. One librarian has affirmed that the modern catalog is a veil between the library and its readers. Edmund Lester Pearson stated that catalogs are evils, though he agreed that perhaps they were necessary evils. At many library meetings, reference librarians and others have waxed bitter over the catalog.

But, however some of us may have regarded it in our discouraged moments, it is a very necessary and important part of the library, and particularly of the reference department.

It is our first tool to use, and is to us as a dictionary is to the student. It also might be likened to the time table of a railroad and to the directory of a city in its relation to the library. It is the library's directory, and as a directory does, so must it contain both an alphabetical list and a classified list of the library's inhabitants—its books.

The catalog card should tell the whole story of the book or enough of it so that with imagination we can fill in the gaps.

I regret to notice that the Library of Congress seems to be discontinuing the practice of putting the author's birth and death dates on their cards. All reference librarians know how helpful that bit of information has been at times. When biographical material about an author is wanted and we hardly know whether he is American or English, living or dead, what a help it is to go to the catalog card and find that he is very likely an Englishman, as his books are published by Heinemann, and that he is probably still living, having been born in 1897. These facts at least give one a starting point.

When trying to choose books on a certain subject from the catalog, just the name of the publisher is an aid sometimes, that is, if we are familiar with the brand of books of certain publishers.

In the reference librarian's function as a buffer between the people who come to the library and some of its machinery in the form of a card catalog, she begins to realize the importance of simplicity and to understand the dread with which most of the public look upon the catalog. Their difficulties are many; perhaps the first and most important being their lack of knowledge of the alphabet. But even I do not expect the catalog department to remedy that. However, I do expect, so far as they are able, that the catalogers should make a catalog that the users of the library can understand, not one that must always be interpreted to them.

A few of the stumbling-blocks which beset the public's path in the use of the catalog and which reference librarians are supposed to explain away daily and hourly are these:

The arrangements of the *Mcs* and *Macs* at the beginning of the *Ms*, particularly when the city directory and telephone book use two other methods of indexing.

The alphabetization of compound and hyphenated words: for example, why the subject *Book Reviews* should precede *Bookbinding*.

The meaning of the *see* and *see also*s is quite beyond them. In the first place they do not know that they are to see some subject in that same catalog, but often think it refers either to another catalog, another room or to

the shelves. Those who do not even realize that it means to see something else somewhere else just consider a "see card" as some strange order of title card with no number and no author—something invented for their confusion by librarians.

Joint author cards mean nothing to them, and are a source of irritation to the librarians themselves, especially when they can only remember the secondary authors of books.

Some criticism from the public does deserve a bit of attention on our part. For example, it would be better to keep the mysteries of library technique in the catalog room—such mysteries as those that require a star or red ink on a subject card, a "q" on the number of an oversize book, or that require what appear to be two cards for the same book (as in cases where a subject heading and title are one and the same word).

I don't believe I was supposed to tell what the public should expect of the catalog, but when they fall into these same pitfalls day after day and year after year it seems as tho in some distant future a catalog could be devised that would be understandable to those who are not library trained. My cataloging colleagues say that I am speaking of the millennium.

Pseudonyms and different spellings of names cause great trouble in catalog departments. I know, and yet in their efforts to be correct an author's works are sometimes placed under an unusual or almost unknown spelling. The most absurd example of this that I know is Tagore. Just because the Library of Congress decided his name was Ravindrantha Thakivra, why should people who use the catalog forever after have to struggle with that name? Why not change the cards to Tagore, the name by which he is always known? This would save all the time we use making explanations to those who wish books by Tagore and who ask us why we have nothing of his in the library. Of course, they should have noticed the *see* card, but they do not understand cross references and apparently never will.

One help from the catalog that reference librarians cannot do without is the tracing on the back of the author cards. When one knows of one good book on a certain subject, referring to the subjects used for that book is sometimes a quicker way to get a line on other books and other subjects to look under than to guess at the subject used in that particular catalog and to plow through the *see also*s.

Sometimes in the Seattle library's catalog the back of the author card will be stamped, "For tracing see official slip." This means that there were too many subject or title or author analytics for this particular book to crowd into

the back of a catalog card. Because there were too many, none was put on, and the reference librarian has come to a blank wall and must start on a new track, mentally heaping imprecations on the catalog department, for there is no time to go across the hall and gaze at said "official slip" in the midst of a reference question.

Once upon a time, for almost six months in our library, the subject tracings were written on the back of the title page of the new reference books. It is still a joy to find a book that came in during that time. We do not know why this happy custom was discontinued. We were as appreciative as we knew how to be, and have gently hinted at intervals ever since that we would welcome its revival. But so far our hints have been unavailing. Perhaps they were too gentle.

Another very nice habit indulged in by our own catalog department in Seattle and still in force is that of sending around each week, to the various departments that use the catalog—such as Circulation, Art, Technology, Schools Divisions and Reference—lists of new subject headings. Thus we keep up with the times and learn, for instance, that now we have in the catalog the new subjects, Greeks in Seattle, Catholic essays, Alpha rays, Labor in literature.

It sometimes happens in larger libraries, where there are separate rooms for certain classes of reference books, that a book is put into a department that has little use for it. The catalog department, having certain rules of classification and of cataloging, feels that a book should go into its correct classification, regardless of the place in which it would have the most use. It is very satisfying to a reference department to work with catalogers who see the reference librarian's viewpoint on this. The cataloger, of course, knows the straight classification of a subject; the reference librarian, working with the public, gets the public's approach to a subject, and it is part of the reference librarian's duty to help the cataloger to see this side.

Most libraries have their books of rules which new assistants are set to studying. For those departments in a library which work with the catalog another book of rules would be helpful. This would be one which would explain the particular cataloging practice in that particular library. Every cataloging department has variations in its methods; its treatment of joint author cards, analytics, etc. And a set of rules provided by a catalog department should facilitate the efficient use of their catalog. New staff members studying it would then discover in a reasonable way in-

stead of by the trial and error method, how it differed from the ones to which they were accustomed.

The greatest benefit which the librarian of the small library receives is from its analytical entries. The smaller the library the more need for such entries, so that all of the resources of the library may be made available.

For general reference use in the public library the dictionary catalog may be acknowledged to have proved its superiority. We have come a long way from the first-known catalogs on stone tablets, and I am sure none of us wish to return even to the recent days of the catalogs bound in book form that were no more nor less than accession records. The dictionary catalog in most American libraries is an improvement over the huge tomes which one must lift onto a shelf to leaf through in the British Museum and many other old and famous libraries.

This I believe, in spite of the article in the *New Republic* of November 6, 1927, entitled "Unlocking the Libraries." The author of this article considers the modern dictionary card catalog as the weakest spot in the whole library system. The solution he offered is to bring the shelf lists out of the catalog rooms into the reference departments where a roomed catalog is needed for use in real research.

I understand that the Technology Department of the Pittsburgh library has such a classed catalog and it is proving a valuable addition to their dictionary catalog.

After all, what everyone must expect of a catalog whether large or small and in what-ever kind of library, is accuracy. This is a fundamental quality that all catalogs must have. If one cannot depend on their accuracy they are almost useless. This not only applies to errors in spelling and filing, but more important still, to author and title entries.

As a final summing up I shall quote a short paragraph from Mr. Keogh, of Yale University.

"The catalog should be simple. It is designed to answer certain questions, and the best catalog answers these questions with the least trouble to the user. It should be a labor-saving and not a trouble-making device. It should reveal and not repel. Theoretical considerations should always give way to facility of use. The headings and references should be as consistent as common sense will allow. . . . For when the cataloger has done his best, the reference librarian will still have to placate perplexed and disappointed users of the catalog."*

*Keogh, Andrew. *A. L. A. Bulletin*, 1908, p. 360.

The New Boston College Library

By William N. Stinson, S.J.

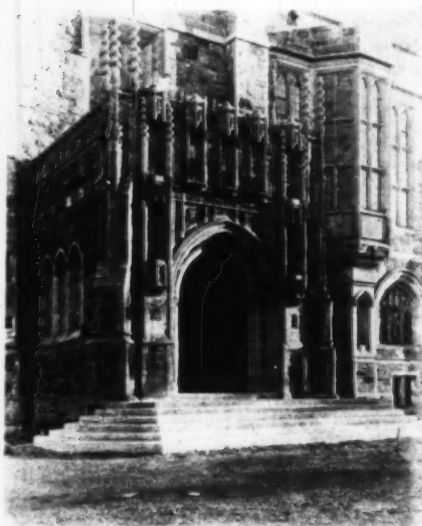
Librarian of Boston College Library

THE new library building at Boston College was dedicated on Wednesday, June 13. This important event in the college history formed part of the Commencement Week program of 1928.

The Boston College property occupies a commanding site of thirty-eight acres in the city of Newton, just at the border line of Boston. The grounds look out over the beautiful Chestnut Hill Reservoirs, and are bounded by Commonwealth Avenue, Beacon Street and College Road.

The new library is the fourth of a projected group of twenty buildings. All of these, designed by the architects Maginnis and Walsh of Boston, are and will be in the English Gothic type of gray stone with Indiana limestone trimmings. The library is a beautiful two-storied building, L shaped in plan, the larger arm (231 feet) facing the present faculty building; the smaller arm (147 feet) facing toward Commonwealth Avenue.

The basement contains the stack rooms, the receiving, work, fan, archive and retiring rooms. The stack room, covering the main sweep of the basement, is an installation of the Art Metal Co. It consists of two tiers, providing for 386,000 volumes. The main entrance to the library is on the south side of the building. Spacious doorways open into a large lobby (28 x 68 feet) out of which rises the great staircase, with its magnificent Shakespeare window of colored glass, leading to the main reading room on the second floor. On either side of this lobby are the ladies' and the reception rooms. A large assembly hall is entered from the lobby. This hall is designed to accommodate the student body until such time as a hall and chapel are permanently provided in separate buildings. The space occupied by this hall may be used, if future needs demand, as a second stack room, doubling the present book capacity. On the north side of the as-



sembly hall, facing Commonwealth Avenue, are the periodical and seminar rooms.

Immediately over the hall is situated the main reading room, 65 x 106 feet, providing for 220 readers. This room, with its massive stone pillars, its lofty arches, its vaulted roof of oak and gorgeous windows of colored glass, is an extremely beautiful example of Gothic strength, grace and dignity. The delivery desk, the work of the Yawman Erbe Co., is at the south entrance. Two rows of large tables fill the main sweep of the floor, and

on either side eight alcoves with smaller tables, provide accommodation for private study. The cases in these alcoves are supplied with the standard works of reference on open shelves. The catalog cases fill the first alcove on the east side. All the furniture of the room is of oak, in Gothic design and in keeping with its magnificent setting.

Just outside the main reading room on the east side of the lobby is a beautifully furnished browsing room, and on the corresponding west side is the librarian's office. Leading from the reading room on the north end are the Faculty and Committee rooms. This last is a richly furnished room suitable for private lectures, committee meetings, exhibits of rare books, etc. Both of these rooms face on Commonwealth Avenue. At the north end of the building is an entrance known as the Tower Entrance. This is a wonderfully beautiful piece of stonework forming an arch 47 feet in height. The tower surmounting it denotes the entrance to the college grounds.

The window scheme of the entire second floor calls for more than a passing notice. These imposing square mullioned windows have been furnished with English field glass in decorative designs illustrating the major courses of study in Jesuit college and university training. Each of the fourteen windows

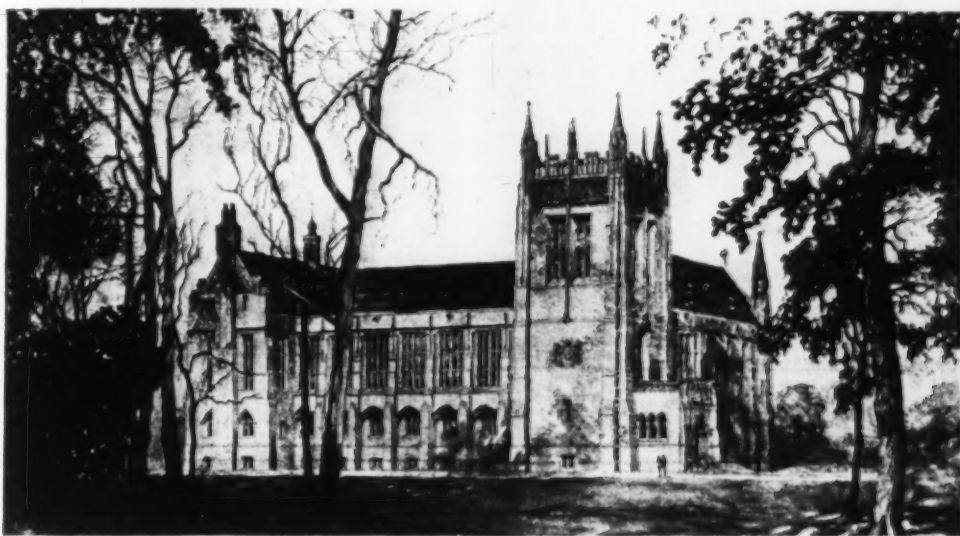
of the main reading room is devoted to a course or to two kindred courses. Each subject is portrayed in four major motives arranged chronologically from the lower left to the higher panel. In each window the figure at the top indicates by mark or symbol the main theme of the group. These figures portray young men standing on the mount of achievement, indicating that youth, by its knowledge of these subjects, enlightens the world; hence, from each rays of light radiate. In the side panels of each window are six characters famous in the history of the subjects developed in the four major panels.

Besides these fourteen windows in the main reading room, there are also the great Shakespeare window in the south lobby, the magnificent Epic Poetry window in the faculty room, and the Evolution of the Book window,

Poetry and Drama.—Four major motives: Poetry: 1. Ulysses heating the brand to blind the Cyclops. 2. Virgil writing the *Georgics* (Pastoral Poetry). Drama: 1. Comedy *Frogs* of Aristophanes. 2. Bacchic Muses and the Origin of Tragedy.

Aesthetic Prose.—1. St. Jerome writing the Vulgate. 2. Blessed Thomas More writing the *Utopia*. 3. Time gazing at a list of famous essayists. 4. Scene from *The Tale of Two Cities*.

Modern Languages.—1. German—The *Nibelungenlied* portraying the Dream of Brunnhilde. 2. Tasso's *Jerusalem Delivered*, figuring Geoffrey de Bouillon. 3. Foundation of the French Academy; Cardinal Richelieu's contribution of about fifteen paintings was the real foundation of this organization. In the background, the Palais Royal and Notre Dame.



The Library, a perfect example of English Gothic Architecture

directly behind the delivery desk. The librarian's office, the browsing and committee rooms have a window scheme of their own. The themes portrayed in the windows are arranged chronologically from lowest to highest panel.

Main Reading Hall

Religion.—First near delivery desk on west side. Four major motives: The Creation, the Light of the World, the Redemption and the Last Judgment.

Oratory.—Four major motives: Sacred: 1. The Sermon on the Mount. 2. St. Paul at Athens. Profane: 1. Demosthenes and the Crown Speech. 2. Cicero against Catiline.

4. Cervantes—Don Quixote attacking the windmill.

Fine Arts.—1. Music: St. Ambrose and the Hymnology. 2. Sculpture: Phideas and the famous statue of Athene. 3. Architecture: Michaelangelo, with St. Peter's in the background, showing the famous statue of David. 4. Leonardo da Vinci painting the Last Supper on the monastery wall.

History and Education.—History: 1. Signing of Magna Charta. 2. Landing of Columbus. Education: 1. King Alfred the Great visiting the monastery schools. 2. Work of the Monks in preserving the manuscripts of the classics, etc.

Useful Arts.—1. Mathematics—The Death of Archimedes. In the background the tradition of the burning of the ships. 2. Engineering—A composite of the achievements in this branch of science. A youth capturing the power of electricity from lightning. The steamboat, locomotive, aeroplane, Woolworth Building, factories, etc., are all an illustration of engineering achievement. 3. Meteorology—Neptune riding the Dolphin during a storm at sea. 4. Seismology—Graphic illustration of an earthquake.

Natural Sciences.—Astronomy, Geology, Physics and Chemistry.

Political Science.—1. Government—Drafting the Declaration of Independence. 2. Sociology—Lincoln freeing the slaves. 3. Political Economy—Woman at the spinning wheel with the mechanical devices for industrial progress through steam, electricity, gas, etc., illustrated in the background. 4. Foreign Service—Commodore Perry opening the port of Japan.

Philosophy.—1. Logic—Aristotle and the Peripatetic School. 2. Metaphysics—St. Thomas writing *Summa Philosophicæ*. 3. Psychology—Cardinal Mercier at the Psychological Laboratory at Louvain. 4. Ethics—A youth bearing a shield with the inscription of the natural law.

Theology.—1. Scripture—Christ and the Evangelists. 2. Dogmatic Theology—Representation of the Holy Trinity. 3. Moral Theology

—The Church's attitude on the Divorce Question. Rome refusing the petitions of Henry VIII and Napoleon. 4. Pastoral Theology—Shepherd with his flock.

Law.—1. Natural—Solomon and the two women. 2. Civil—The Aeropagites. 3. Canon—Pius X and the New Code of Canon Law. 4. International.

Medicine.—1. Biology. 2. Physiology. 3. Anatomy. 4. Surgery.

Windows Over Grand Staircase at South Entrance

Twelve-panel Shakespeare Window

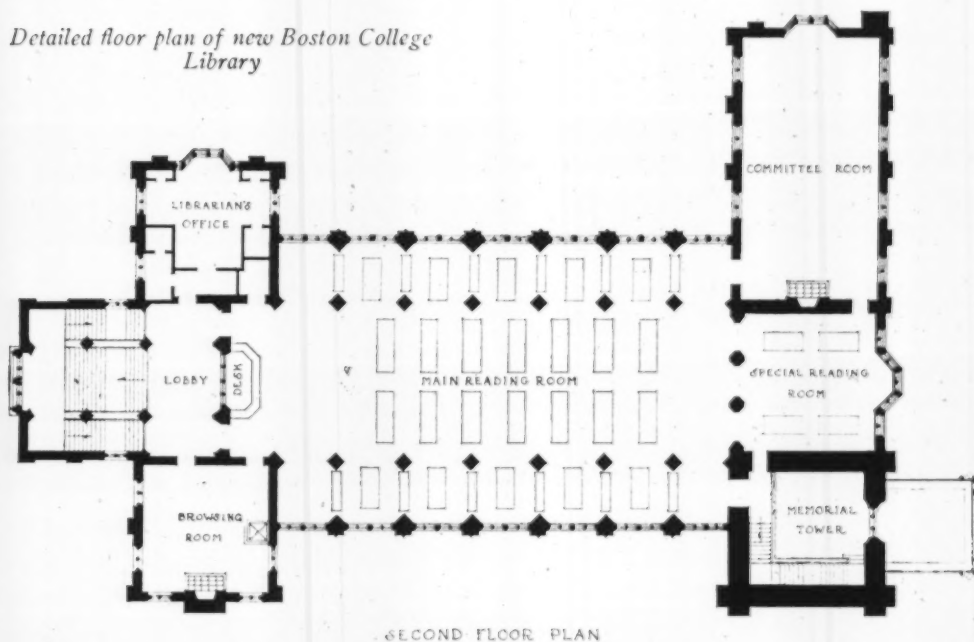
Section 1. (Reading from top to bottom)—Historical plays: Title Panel, Shakespeare holding copy of the Chronicles; Panel 2, Antony and Cleopatra; Panel 3, Julius Cæsar (speech of Marc Antony).

Section 2. Farce Comedy: Title Panel —; Panel 2, Merry Wives of Windsor (the basket episode of Falstaff); Panel 3, A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Section 3. Romance Comedy: Title Panel —; Panel 2, Taming of the Shrew (submission of Katherine); Panel 3, Merchant of Venice (Court Scene).

Section 4. Tragedy: Title Panel —; Panel 2, Hamlet and the apparition of his deceased father; Panel 3, King Lear (The Storm Scene).

Detailed floor plan of new Boston College Library



The two six-panel windows at either side of the Shakespeare window have six of the prominent men characters and six of the prominent women characters in Shakespeare.

The interior window represents the development of the book from hieroglyphics through the manuscript stage to the finished bound volume.

Browsing Room

Chaucer and the twenty-nine characters of the Canterbury Tales. Librarian's Office: Statesmen, Orators, Essayists, etc., who have been influential in American development. Committee Room: A portrayal of Jesuit Education in the New World (fifty-four seals of universities and colleges).

Faculty Room

Thirty-panel window on Epic Poetry. Homer—Three scenes from the Odyssey, three from the Iliad. Virgil—Six scenes from the Aeneid. Dante—Two scenes from the Inferno; two from Purgatorio and two from Paradiso. German—Two scenes from Parsival. French—Two scenes from the Romance of Rolande. Spanish—Two scenes from Le Cid. Gaelic—Two scenes from Ancient Epics. Anglo-Saxon—Two scenes from Beowulf. English—Two scenes from the Holy Grail.

This unique and beautiful window scheme was designed and executed by Mr. Earl E. Sanborn in his studios at 12 Buckingham Street, Boston, Mass.

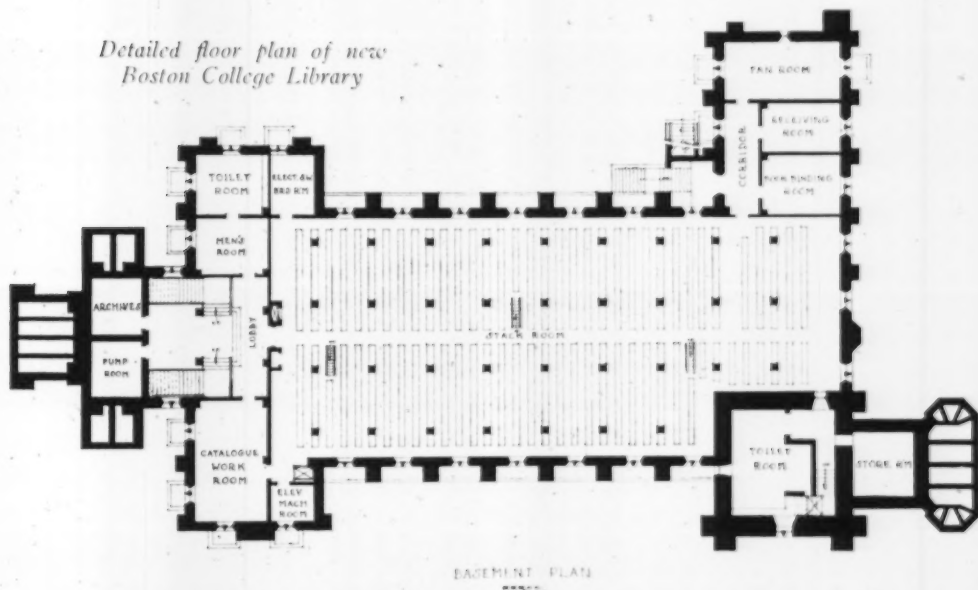
Scope of the Collections

The latest Boston College catalog lists 2214 students in its various departments and affiliated schools. The library aims at supplying, first of all, the needs of this student body and their faculty. Later on it will serve a larger public. At present it contains noteworthy collections of Jesuitica, Catholic Church history in New England, Irish, West Indian and African history. It has also a valuable collection of Judaica.

The Library now contains about 110,000 volumes. Of these about 60,000 have been cataloged, and the work of cataloging the remaining volumes is being rapidly carried on. The L. C. system has been adopted, and full advantage has been taken of the practical help afforded by the purchase of the L. C. cards. It is a pleasure to make this public acknowledgment of the real assistance offered by this splendidly efficient service of our national library. It has lessened our labor and minimized the expensive work of cataloging very appreciably.

Boston is the third of the Jesuit colleges that have erected new library buildings in the last few years. Fordham University dedicated its library building during Commencement Week of 1926; Holy Cross followed, opening its beautiful library building in November 1927, and now Boston takes her place with her sister colleges. And still the constructive work goes on, this time in Baltimore, where, through the

*Detailed floor plan of new
Boston College Library*





*Main Reading Room, Boston College Library
In the recesses beneath the Gothic Arches are alcoves for private study*

mumificence of Mr. Edward Jenkins, Loyola College, one of the oldest of the Jesuit colleges in the eastern states, is erecting a library on the beautiful college grounds at Evergreen.

In all these efforts the Jesuit colleges are only carrying out old traditions of their society. Theirs is a literary history. For the past three hundred years and more the names of Jesuit scholars have been among the 'outstanding' figures in every department of literature, history and science. The bibliography of Jesuit writers fills ten folio volumes. With such a record, it is only natural to expect that the Jesuit colleges of today should manifest a keen interest in and appreciation of library work, and that they should be eager to provide the best of library equipment for the thousands of students who place themselves under their educational guidance.

Of the Boston College group of buildings, Mr. Ralph Adams Cram has written:

"Seldom . . . does the opportunity offer itself for a complete and consistent group of all

the educational buildings, planned by one hand and forming a consistent whole. Boston College is one of the exceptions, and from every possible view the general public must look with increasing interest to the working out of the project, at the same time giving it every possible support, financial and otherwise. There are no limits that can be set to the cultural and civilizing value of such a power as this.

"Altogether, the profession of architecture must feel it is already heavily in the debt of Boston College and its architects. How deeply in their debt must be the general public is a thing that will be perhaps more clearly recognized as the great scheme is worked out to its conclusion. Clearly after a precedent such as this, there is no excuse for organized education and organized religion to revert to the old ways of cheap, ugly and ignominious architecture. A standard is set here toward which all energies in the future should be bent with the idea of approximation, even if not of emulation."

Memorizing as a Factor in Library School Study

By Dena Babcock

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THE purpose of this paper is obviously not to give the result of any experiments or investigations on the part of the writer. Rather, it is an attempt to summarize the basic principles in the field of memory, as they are accepted by educational psychologists at the present time, and to make some application of these principles to the work of the library school instructor.

In many psychological details there is still disagreement among experts, a good example of which fact is the lack of uniformity in the definition of memory. The earlier students of the subject considered memory a faculty of the brain, or a storehouse from which ideas could be produced when needed. At present, neither of these ideas about memory seems to be accepted. Instead, it is thought to be a form of mental activity, a method rather than a goal. One of the simplest definitions we have found is given by Pyle in his *Psychology of Learning* and, while he does not claim that this is a technical definition, he uses the term, memory, as synonymous with retention of experience. He says: "To learn means to become different. To remember means to retain the difference." In this discussion, we shall use the word "memory" in that sense, as retention, and "memorizing" as the process of fixing the impression so that it can be retained and recalled later. It is this initial step, the fixing of the impression, and the methods by which it can best be done, that form the subject of this inquiry.

A fact about which psychologists seem to agree is that memory, as the ability to retain, is fixed for each individual and cannot be improved by any method. Too many people, however, do not get the benefit of all the retentive power that is normally theirs, because they do not know how to develop it up to their particular capacity. The native retentiveness of the brain cannot be increased by practice, it is noticeably diminished by advancing age and is similarly affected by poor health. So the first piece of advice psychology offers us, if we wish to remember, is to keep our physical condition above par so that the natural ability to retain can be utilized. We cannot neglect our physical investment and expect mental returns.

The physiological fact that underlies the whole process of learning seems to be explained, as well as it can be, by what in popular language are called brain paths, caused by va-

rious degrees of resistance offered by the parts of the central nervous system to a stimulation or excitation that passes over it. The excitation takes its course over the route where it finds the least resistance and, after this path is once made, a repetition of the stimulus tends to follow the same path. It is necessary to say "tends" because, even after the paths are well established, there is no absolute certainty that the same route will be followed each time. But the chances are that it will, unless deflected as a result of fatigue, violent emotion or some other factor that changes the amount of resistance of the nervous system.

Mental processes that occur together, or in succession, become associated, some trace of this association is left in the brain and either, occurring again, will recall the other. This association is the central fact in all learning. Memorizing is primarily the process of associating ideas so that they may be recalled at some later time in the same connection. The more associations that are formed, the more sure is the recall. The secret of "good memory," then, is the secret of forming many and varied associations for every idea we wish to retain. This must, of course, be done when the first impression is being made, or when memorizing is being done.

Equal care must be given to avoiding wrong associations and to forming as many right ones as possible. Pyle gives a good illustration of this. He says: "The organization of experience, however, is independent in some measure, of the original order of experience. We get experience as the chances of life determine. In accordance with the law of association, things are bound together which have been experienced together. But things which we have experienced together may have for us no useful connection. Chances may determine that I see a rattlesnake and hear a hoot owl at the same time, but this connection of the two may have no use for me. We can organize our experience by thinking it over in helpful relations. The important idea for me to have when I see a rattler, is not of an owl, but that the snake may bite me and that its bite is poisonous. . . . Certain relations in the world are more important to us than others. We therefore reorganize the world by thinking over our experience in the relations that are important to us." The principle of cause and effect therefore becomes important and helpful in estab-

lishing relationships and in the organization of experience.

It is especially important that what is learned should first be understood. H. H. Horne, in his *Psychological Principles of Education*, tells of a small school girl who, when asked if she understood what she was memorizing so rapidly, replied: "Oh, no, Sir, we have so much to learn we don't have time to understand it." If not understood, material with meaning becomes, for the learner, the same as meaningless material and makes logical associations difficult.

The best associations are, of course, the natural, logical ones, but, if material to be learned has no obvious associations, some may be discovered if we search for them, or artificial ones must be used. Artificial systems of memorizing are called mnemonic and are based on some sort of association, often accidental and always mechanical, but made more or less permanent by attention and concentration. Such systems probably have a limited value. Some of them are so elaborate and mechanical that it requires as much time and energy to learn them as it would to learn the material that they are devised to help remember. This violates the principle laid down by Colvin that "Only those things should be memorized that are intrinsically worthy of being reproduced."

The habit of considering facts in such a mechanical relation to each other is likely to result in too much dependence on the artificial relations of all facts. Dr. Noah Porter is quoted by Horne as saying: "When facts to be remembered have essential relationships with other facts, it does positive violence both to intelligence and to reality to hang them by the neck until dead upon such a stiff framework."

Memorizing the exact words of a selection is not so common now as formerly but some of this "learning by heart," or verbatim learning, is always necessary in school work and is still valuable if properly used. If it means simply the mechanical, unthinking repetition of words, it is bad, but if it means being able to repeat the exact words of a good definition or other important statement after the meaning is thoroughly understood, it is not without value. But memorizing ideas is, in general, more to be desired than the mere verbatim memorizing of words.

Some of the other factors that have a bearing on memorizing are repetition, distribution of time, intention to learn, attitudes and incentives, whole and part method, interference and recall.

Repetition is an important factor in memorizing and there is nothing that can take its place. The frequency of the repetitions and the length of time that should be devoted to

any one repetition vary with the kind and difficulty of the material to be learned, the age of the learner, his physical condition, tendency to fatigue, and so forth. But, in general it has been found that, for permanent results, the distributed method—short periods with longer intervals between the periods—is better than the concentrated method—long periods with shorter intervals between. So-called "cramming" for an examination is a good example of the concentrated method and no argument is needed to prove that its results are only temporary. For memorizing logical material, the reducing schedule of time, in which the periods devoted to repetition become shorter and the intervals become longer, has been found by several experimenters to give best results, because forgetting is more rapid at first and, as the memorizing progresses, less time is needed for review.

Another thing that helps to make memorizing successful and permanent is the intention to learn. It has been found by experiment, and it is quite evident from observation, that unless there is a will to learn and some concentration on the things repeated, the results of the memorizing are much lessened or not accomplished at all.

Attitude of mind in regard to the memorizing process is also very important and the student who is favorably disposed toward his studies, the teacher and the school will accomplish better and more lasting results than the one with an unfavorable attitude. Attention and interest are vital factors. Some of the other incentives, or personal factors, that affect memorizing are knowledge of definite aim, knowledge of results, competition, punishment, reward, approval, disapproval, emotional tone, knowledge of errors and knowledge of when the material is to be recalled, most of which are too self-evident to need comment here. Knowledge of results and the value of good emotional tone are probably most often disregarded by teachers of any of those factors enumerated. More permanent results will be secured also if memorizing is done under some pressure, not enough to cause worry or confusion but enough to prevent inattention and distraction.

There is some discussion among authorities as to the respective merits of memorizing a specific selection as a whole and by parts. The greatest agreement seems to be in favor of the "whole" method but there are exceptions, cases in which it is better to break a selection up into parts, due to the length or difficulty of the selection or to the age or ability of the learner. The principle must be applied with common sense.

There is also value in the attempt to recall

what is being memorized. This attempt should be made, not too soon nor too late, but when it has been sufficiently well memorized that recall tends to make the associations more permanent and the retention more sure.

Finally, there is the fact to be noted that an impression can be erased if followed too soon by another and stronger impression. This is known as retroactive inhibition, because the strong impression works backward to destroy the preceding one before it is fixed. To avoid this interference, a few seconds at least must be allowed for the fixing of an impression before it is followed by another.

These are not, by any means, all the things that could be said about memorizing and methods of improving it up to the individual's capacity, but they represent the most important principles that have been generally accepted by educational psychologists. An understanding of these principles is essential to the best results in teaching and some of the ways in which they may be applied to the special field of library school teaching are suggested here.

In the first place, the fact that capacity for retention varies in different individuals and cannot be changed is a good thing for library school instructors to remember. This may necessitate taking personal factors into account by some means and to some extent. But, on the other hand, if instructors understand and help students understand that their ability to retain can be increased up to a certain limit, the variation in memorization of a class of approximately the same age and education will probably not be great enough to cause practical difficulty in teaching.

Good health and physical fitness are requirements for admission to most, if not all, library schools but there is need of care on the part of both teacher and student that this health shall not be impaired. The teacher needs to be sure that the course does not attempt to cover too much and that the assignments are not too long for accomplishment in reasonable time. And the student must be helped to schedule his work and taught to avoid study when fatigued so that he will conserve the strength with which he started. This training will be equally valuable outside of school, but the close connection between a healthy physical condition and ability to memorize in the broad sense is sufficient reason for emphasizing it in teaching.

Associations are no more important here than in any other kind of school but perhaps they are more easily formed because there is such close connection between the different courses in the curriculum. For example, the principles of cataloging are used and emphasized in the courses in book selection, reference work and

bibliography and each time these principles are brought up in their new relation, new and different associations are formed which help to insure recall when the principles are needed later.

It seems especially useful in library schools for the instructor to remember the need for understanding on the part of the student before he is expected to remember. It is easy for any instructor to forget that things simple to him are complicated to the uninitiated but it seems particularly true in library schools. Many of the subjects and terms in library science education are peculiar to this field and entirely unfamiliar to even the well-informed student, and it is easy for the library school instructor of much experience to overlook details of explanation that are most important and need careful attention in order that the inexperienced student shall get the right impression and the right associations at the start. This applies to memorizing definitions as mentioned above. Learning them verbatim has value if they are first understood.

There are some mnemonic elements in the classification system taught in most library schools and they are a help to the beginner. Soon, the number and the subject become associated less mechanically and the relation recalled without the use of the artificial system. It seems wise that these more natural associations should be formed as early as possible and that the mnemonic tendency not be carried too far.

There is also a certain amount of drill necessary on catalog rules, trade bibliographies and other routines and it may as well be recognized as such and put up to the student as a necessary foundation for the more complicated processes.

The points mentioned above in regard to the necessity of repetition and the superiority of the distributed method of memorizing are very applicable in library subjects. There are so many new things to be learned at once that students are very likely to neglect reviews unless they are made a part of the class period and there seems to be an unusual tendency to depend on the concentrated method. A systematic method of reviewing and recall can be outlined by the teacher and will eliminate much of the "cramming" before an examination.

One of the important factors also is the attitude of the student toward his studies. Many of the very essential things in preparation for almost any kind of library work, such as catalog principles, bibliographical form and arrangement of reference books, get the reputation of being unnecessary and unimportant red tape. Here is where motivation can meet

a real need by furnishing a good and sufficient reason for their existence and changing the entire attitude of the student toward their mastery. What appeared to be drudgery becomes essential and is no longer slighted or hated. A number of details, formerly considered essentials by librarians, are being recognized at present as traditions only, for which motivation seems impossible. Anything that has no reason worth giving to a class should be considered carefully before requiring the class to learn it and it seems quite safe to say that, if no reason can be given, it should be dropped. All this is by way of emphasis on the fact that attitudes determine interest, interest determines attention and attention is necessary for the memorizing process.

One other thing that it seems necessary to mention is the tendency of some instructors to try to prevent students knowing whether or not they are progressing as they should. According to psychology, they defeat their own

purpose by this method. They should, instead, see that each student knows what he is supposed to do, how nearly he has come to what was expected of him, give approval where it is due and encouragement where it is needed.

Some library schools at present are including in their curricula a course in practical psychology to be elected by those students who failed to get an introduction to the subject in college. So it seems not out of place to suggest that if such a course is not offered, some of the principles given here should be presented to the students by some means, so that they may learn some of the reasons for certain requirements made of them, get an idea how to study most effectively and thereby get the most possible from the library school course.

Prepared as a term paper at the Institute for Instructors in Library Science, University of Chicago, 1927.

Extension Work at the American Library in Paris

EXTENSION work of the American Library in Paris is growing rapidly. Close co-operation with the various universities and institutions of higher instruction throughout France has been established for some time, and quite recently, at the suggestion of Burton Stevenson, director of the Library, an official circular concerning the library's service was sent to all *lycées* by M. Francisque Vial, in charge of French secondary instruction. Monsieur Vial calls the attention of all teachers to the value of this service, speaks of it in the warmest terms, and asks that the entire personnel of the secondary schools be informed of it. As a result the library has received a deluge of letters from teachers asking for books, and many applications from students requesting borrowers' cards.

The Library offers, through its extension service, to send to any teacher or student for a loan of two months any book relating to any American subject which they may wish to see, and to procure any such book not already in its collections. Books on other subjects are also loaned, if the library possesses them. These loans are sent by mail post-free, by the courtesy of the Ministry of Public Instruction, thru its *Service des Prêts d'Imprimés*. The same

service is offered to the whole of Europe, but since the postal charges for countries outside of France must be met by the borrower, it has not developed as rapidly as the service within France.

The Library is about to issue a bibliography of books important to the study of American history, which will be sent to all libraries and universities of Europe, with the offer of a long-term loan of any of the books listed, and this will be followed by a bibliography of American literature, and by others covering other American subjects. Special bibliographies upon any American subject will be prepared upon request. Meanwhile, as this service develops, Mr. Stevenson hopes to secure the co-operation of the Ministry of Public Instruction in other European countries in forwarding these books through diplomatic channels, so that there will be no charge on the borrower.

The main purpose of the American Library in Paris is "to become the recognized center of information about America for Europeans, and to promote among students, journalists and men of letters in Europe a closer acquaintance with American literature, institutions and thought," and this purpose is gradually being achieved.

Making One Library Known in Its Community

By Loretta Toomey

Buder Branch, St. Louis Public Library

ONE of the chief concerns of the modern librarian is to get acquainted with his community in order to interest its members in the library. Librarians all over the country are employing various means of accomplishing this purpose, and many of them could tell us about unusual methods that have brought them success. At the Buder Branch of the St. Louis Public Library we have had our problems, like all of the rest and have done what we could to meet them.

The Buder Branch is a small branch in a school building on a quiet street where few people pass, for this street leads nowhere, but ends abruptly where somebody's farm begins. A sign over the door reading "Library Entrance" informs the passerby that there is a library in the building, but it is misleading. Those who see it think that it refers to a school library and they take no further interest.

This library is in the far southwestern part of the city in a district known as "Southampton." In the neighborhood the people are friendly and informal. They own their own homes and take pride in the little community. It is more like a village library than a city branch. When the branch was new some of the residents came to visit the library in the same way that they would have come to welcome a new neighbor. Several of them had stories to tell about the beginning of Southampton, stories that were too interesting to be forgotten. As no one on the library staff had time to write them down, the children's librarian called the attention of the teachers in the school to the matter. They arranged to have the children of the upper grades collect information and write a history of Southampton. Each child was assigned a topic. Some traced the origin of street names; others wrote up business places, old houses and unusual points of interest in the district. Merchants and old residents were visited; the news was spread about generally that the library was going to have a local history exhibit and every one was invited to see it. Generous people loaned pictures taken in the early days of Southampton. An article was published in the local newspaper and a large part of Southampton came to visit the library and to read about itself.

Southampton is only a sub-division of St. Louis and it is comparatively new. It was developed by an enterprising real estate company less than twenty-five years ago. Consequently,

there are no names of famous explorers or early missionaries to be found in its history. However, its origin was connected with an important event and with the name of David R. Francis, a former governor of Missouri.

It was when Governor Francis was President of the Board of Directors of the St. Louis World's Fair that Southampton had its beginning. He purchased the land on which it now stands as a site for the fair. Later, when it was planned to hold the fair in Forest Park, he turned the ground over to a real estate company to be sold in small lots for homes. An Englishman was put in charge of this work. He called the sub-division "Southampton."

No one has ever ventured to surmise what thoughts of home, what dreams of giant ships or far-off bustling scenes led him to select "Southampton" as a name for this quiet inland spot, destined to be peopled largely by Americans of German ancestry.

The history of Southampton interested many people but for the most of them the collection of photographs showing the progress of the development of the district was the real attraction.

History in Family Pictures

At some future time we shall have an exhibition of photographs of a more personal nature. It is true that there are no pictures in the homes of our readers that are ancient enough to have any historic value but there are many that are just old enough to be amusing. Hidden away in some of the family albums are queer old pictures of early residents. A number of our friends who own kodaks have snap-shots that possess the same humorous quality that characterizes Richard Culter's illustrations in his *Gay Nineties*. A collection of these pictures will make a fascinating display. A charming addition to it will be a group of "baby pictures." Neighbors should come from far and wide to gaze with wonder and awe upon these studies in which the now grown and dignified citizens of Southampton will be shown in dress and pose indicative of what the well-dressed baby was wearing in dear old 1905.

In a town that boasts a more venerable origin; one, for example that traces its history back to the old French days, a much more extensive exhibit would be possible. Valuable old letters, reports and documents would probably be brought to light. Doubtless, many books

and pamphlets touching on community history would be available. One of the women's clubs might be willing to collect the material and arrange the display.

Another interesting project worked out at Buder Branch was our Children's Book Week Exhibit. Every child in one of the large public schools contributed something to this exhibit. Book reviews, book lists, poems and posters were made by these boys and girls. Some of the young artists drew posters advertising the library and hung them in the windows of their homes. Others made posters recommending their favorite books and brought them to the library to be displayed. Book reviews written by the upper grades were especially interesting and created a surprising demand for the books discussed. The fact that some boy or girl enjoyed a book enough to write about it established its popularity at once. The thoughts of some of the children took a botanical turn, leading them to collect leaves and paste them in scrap-books. As all of the leaves had to be identified, books on trees were at a premium.

Children Exhibitors

There were "compositions" about the library and pictures of well-known book characters, too. Even the little children in the first grade made a book of the "Ginger-Bread Boy," each child contributing a page. This exhibit was greatly enjoyed by the children themselves and many parents came to the library to see their children's work.

One day Chenchu, a Chinese doll, came to the library. Her mother was an American child, but both lived in China for a long time. Chenchu was so unusual that we all thought she should stay in the library for a while in order that all of the neighbors might meet her. As some one said she looked lonesome we decided to invite other dolls dressed as book characters to join her. Costume books and illustrated children's books were worked overtime. Chenchu's first companion arrived in the person of Pinocchio, wearing a cap of bread crumbs. Sleeping Beauty came next. Dressed in a white satin robe and wearing on her head a white lace mantle trimmed with pearls, she reposed on a couch of pale blue silk. Then came King Arthur, Peter Pan, Robin Hood and many others.

Dressing the dolls caused a great deal of library talk in the homes and the mothers came to the library to see what it was all about. While there, they saw other things, such as cook-books and books on housekeeping and needle-work. As they were more interested in their homes than in anything else, they carried some of these books home and later came back for more.

Instead of dressing dolls to represent book characters, the idea might have been carried out in a different way. The children themselves might wear the costumes. They would not have to stay in the library as the dolls did but might form a parade, headed by the school band, and march through the streets of the community accompanied by Boy Scouts, who would distribute library literature to all on the line of march.

Every spring we announce a bird-house exhibit, asking the boys of the neighborhood to build bird-houses and bring them to the library to be displayed. Books at the branch supply plans and directions for making all kinds of bird-houses but our little friends are puzzled about many things not found in any book. For instance one wanted to know what color a wren liked best. Another wanted directions for making a bird-house out of tar paper. We have to use our ingenuity in answering questions of this type.

When the bird-houses are finished the children bring them to the library and each boy's name is put on his house. These miniature dwellings reveal an infinite variety. There are small houses for private families of birds and large apartment houses for birds that have felt the touch of modernism. Many of them are so cleverly and expertly made that we suspect some fathers of having a hand in the work.

Last year the boys considered this project a great success because the official photographer of the Board of Education took a picture of them with their bird-houses. It was published in the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* with all their names and an article about the exhibit. The Buder Library felt very important, too, when it found itself featured in one of the largest newspapers in the country. While news about the branch is published very often in Southampton's own newspaper and the editor likes to get stories about anything that is going on in the library, the large daily papers seldom take notice of the little branch on the outskirts of the city.

Bird-houses are built to bring birds to the neighborhood, but they serve to bring patrons to the library, especially fathers and mothers who drop in to see their children's work on display and linger to select a book or two.

There is a splendid chance for co-operation between the library and the churches. Every community has its churches and the librarian can easily find a way of rendering each pastor some special library service. We were able to help each one in a different way. We could sympathize with the Lutheran minister as his problem was similar to our own. He was trying to bring people to his church. We supplied

him with books on church advertising and posted a list of his sermons in the library. The Methodist minister was preparing a series of talks on new novels. We reserved the books for him and collected a number of book reviews which he found useful. Lists of books by Catholic authors and suggestions for Lenten reading were sent to all of the Catholic churches. Sometimes we helped to prepare church entertainments. In return the pastors have given space to library posters and have printed our lists in their bulletins.

Women's clubs afford a means of reaching a large percentage of the women of the community. We have attended their meetings and have frequently had a chance to talk about the library. Sometimes we have invited all of the members of an organization to come to the library at the same time. On occasions of this kind books on child psychology, interior decoration and other subjects of interest to women were exhibited, lists were distributed and new readers registered. Many women who had never been to the library before came to these meetings.

Business people are in a position to give valuable assistance in library advertising. Many of them have well located windows where books and posters may be displayed. As library publicity is a new idea to nearly all of them, it is advisable to become acquainted with these men before asking any favors for the library. We found it simple to cultivate the business men who used the branch. A real estate man offered us the use of his window before we asked for it, because we had loaned him books on real estate and sent him books on fishing when we found that was his hobby. Another real estate man erected a sign-board advertising the library on some land he had for sale. He said that a library nearby made his property more desirable and that the sign would hasten its sale. Many of the merchants were willing to co-operate because the library staff traded with them. The manager of a cleaning establishment gave us the use of a fine large window because he had done cleaning for the staff. The woman who kept the dry-goods store needed her window but she was willing to share it

with the library. A few books on dressmaking and a notice that the library had all the new fashion magazines were added to a display of dress goods already in the window. Other people shared their windows in this way. Most store keepers were willing to display posters and the real estate men gave us permission to use the windows of vacant stores.

As posters were needed in nearly all of our publicity work, we planned a simple poster. It included the name of the library and its location. The information that books for adults and children were free was added because it was not clear to everybody that a library in a school building could be for the general public. In the center there was left a blank space where a picture from a book jacket might be pasted. The colored picture made the poster attractive, and it suggested a definite book. When posters were to be placed in churches we listed religious books on them. The story-hour program was also advertised in this way. Large posters to be used in vacant stores were planned in the same way and illustrated with six or seven book jackets.

The library has something to offer every man, woman and child in the community. Many of these people are not acquainted with the library; occasions are found to introduce them. Exhibitions bring many to the library for the first time. A busy mother who says that she has no time for reading comes to the library to see her child's work on display. While she is there she discovers a long forgotten recipe in a cook book. An interested father drops in to see some bird-houses and lingers to select a book on advertising. Some patrons are attracted in other ways. A mechanic who considers reading a waste of time comes to the library after he has seen books on his trade displayed in a neighboring store. An old lady who reads only her Bible finds her way to the library when her minister recommends a religious book that he found there. The library message comes to each of these people in a different way but all of them receive it. The library belongs to them. It has much to offer them. It is the librarian's privilege to tell them so.

What is Library News? by D. A. Macgregor, in *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* for November 15, 1928, is but one of the many excellent articles on Library Publicity which have appeared throughout the year.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

January 1, 1929

The Editor Looks Forward and Backward

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, its editor and his associates greet 1929 as a great library year, with happy promise for large fulfillment. In mid-summer comes the first official international library and bibliographical congress at Rome, for though international conferences, gathering representatives from many countries, have been held, as at St. Louis 1904, Brussels 1910, Atlantic City 1926, Edinburgh 1927, this is the first which will represent officially the national library associations which now practically girdle the globe. With the great Sterling Library rising at Yale, the munificent bequest of above six million dollars from Payne Whitney to the New York Public Library and the Rockefeller gift for the League of Nations Library, precedent has been set in recent years for those of large wealth to turn their generosity into library channels, and it is to be hoped that the American Library Association will be able to complete in this new year the endowment for which liberal pledges have already been made. This will make possible and permanent many of the undertakings which have passed their experimental stage and which reach out directly or indirectly into most parts of the world. The past year, with its wonderful development of wireless communication around the world, has emphasized again the great fact that the world is one, oceans no longer barriers but highways for the huge ships that shuttle across them, the air conquered and the unknown ether made the mysterious vehicle of thought. The new year should see this world advance forward by the general ratification of the Briand-Kellogg world treaty, by the triumph of the Pan American Union in bringing peace out of war in South America and by the results of the good-will journey of President-elect Hoover throughout Latin America—all these in that true international spirit which is that of the library profession.

AT the beginning of a year, this year the fifty-fourth volume of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, memory harks back to other beginnings, as when the present writer shared with Melvil Dewey the editorship of this periodical and started the ball rolling for the organization of the American Library Association. The first issue of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL as the "journal of the American Library Association," actually preceded the Association by a month, in September instead of October. The JOURNAL never received pecuniary support from the Association except for the cost of the annual conference report, and in 1907 it resigned from official relationship and became in name as well as in fact an independent journal, giving cordial editorial support to the Association.

In those early days the profession was much indebted for the preliminary work of clearing ground and shaping for the future to Charles A. Cutter, of honored memory, who edited the department of Bibliography, and to James L. Whitney, who prepared the department of Pseudonyms and Anonyms, including the record of changed titles, which latter in those days made a merry chase for disguised authors before the combination of his material into "A Modern Proteus" gave the basis for later inquiries. In an early volume W. E. Foster, still happily with us, began his admirable series of "References to the History of Presidential Administrations" which became a "separate" as an issue of the Society for Political Education, to which also the present writer gave initiative. Coupled with these names should be those of W. I. Fletcher, most industrious of men, cooperating with Dr. Poole in "Poole's Index," and later George Hies, who, besides giving the A. L. A. \$10,000 from his well-earned savings in support of Librarian Larned's "History for Ready Reference," was associated in the editorship of "The Reader's Guide in Economic, Social and Political Science," also published by the Society for Political Education. Of the twenty-one eminent librarians on its first title-page who became nominally associate editors of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, only one survives, in the veteran Charles Evans, still at work on his indispensable chronological dictionary of American publications, but most of their names survive on the honor roll of the A. L. A. as successive presidents. Of the early members of the A. L. A. accessioned up to 500 before the Lake George Conference of 1885, fourteen only are recorded in its present membership list. Henry R. Tedder, a founder of the British association, became for a while European editor for the JOURNAL, which at that time was

the sole library periodical, covering the English as well as the American field. During these past years two of the managing editors, who have relieved the editor at the working oars and from time to time stood watch at the rudder, will be especially remembered for the length as well as the effectiveness of their service, Helen E. Haines who, coming into the field of library journalism from stenographic work, made her mark within the profession and in her retirement in California has taken up her full share of library work in connection with the library school at Los Angeles, and Eleanor H. Duncan, who concludes her service of the past ten years with the full appreciation and gratitude of her chief as for the ensuing year she plans travel abroad, where she will act as corresponding editor for the periodical in which her good work has been so widely recognized by the profession.

THE starting of a new periodical is always a problem of pecuniary support, and *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* has been no exception. The burden of its early years fell upon Frederick Leyboldt, its publisher, who during the writer's absence for some years in Europe took up also the burden of editorship, and a debit of five thousand dollars on the balance sheet of *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* within the first five years and the outlay on the *American Catalog* led to the proposed suspension, in 1880, of the periodical.

An amusing sequence of the announcement was the fierce attack by W. F. Poole—whose true gentleness made his bark worse than his bite—which was launched upon the present writer in a letter to the Library Association of the United Kingdom, as the British association was originally called, which the secretary happened to be reading when for the first time he attended a gathering of the English brethren. The occasion made opportunity for an explanation on the floor which opened the way for cordial welcome of the newcomer, the beginning of many international friendships, and the good Doctor's explosion proved as harmless as when later, at Buffalo in 1883, he attacked Melvil Dewey's proposal for a library school, tho disclaiming intention of throwing cold water upon it, to which a witty confrere rejoined that he had already thrown a whole Poole.

Mr. Leyboldt, who would be devoted to his lifework at any cost, could not bring himself to take limiting advice, and so publication was promptly resumed, with a continuing deficit which in succeeding years outreached \$20,000 before the periodical could balance debit with

credit. At the beginning it had the field to itself, a field indeed of unfertilized soil and sparse harvest, but in this half-century library journalism has so increased that the American Library Association now sends its releases to nearly a hundred periodicals directly or indirectly concerned with the field, and this coming year is to witness the starting of still another periodical under the auspices of the A. L. A. in addition to its *Bulletin* and the *Booklist*.

It has been the pleasant lot of the present editor to keep in touch with the several callings engaged in book production and distribution—author, publisher, bookseller, librarian—always with strong sense that these are united in a common service, best stated in the motto of the A. L. A., "the best reading for the greatest number at the least cost." Despite natural differences in points of view, these groups have been steadily coming to a better understanding of each other's work and each other's aims.

It has always been the editor's belief that a professional journal should present all sides of any controverted issue, and while one may not oneself write other than one's own convictions, the columns of *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* have always been open to open discussion. The present editor recognizes this responsibility, and recognizes also that it cannot be for many more years that he will retain the responsibilities which have so long been his, and he has therefore planned to make the editorial pages of *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* an editorial forum in which several eminent librarians, representing different interests and different parts of the country, will participate as contributing editors, sometimes presenting in the same columns views which represent different angles within the profession itself. In this goodly company are already enlisted Messrs. Wellman, Lydenberg, Richardson, Bishop and Bostwick, to which list men and women representing other parts of the country or other library interests will presently be added. To those who have contributed to *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* throughout these years he owes and offers cordial appreciation and thanks in the hope that their services to the profession through *THE LIBRARY JOURNAL* may be continued long beyond his day, and in the present volume he tenders thanks in advance to Theodore W. Koch, who begins in this issue what may be called the serial story of a modern pilgrim's progress, detailing the experiences of the librarians whom he led through the library centers of Europe during the past year, to the mutual satisfaction of visitors and visited alike.

Expansion of the Library of Congress

EXPANSION of the Library of Congress at home and abroad continued during the last fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, the period covered by the recent report of the Librarian of Congress. In no previous year, states Dr. Putnam, has an Appropriation Committee indicated so keen an interest in studying the needs of the library or so considerate a spirit in the endeavor to meet them. The chief benefits resulting are an item of \$387,000 for the extension over the east and southeast stacks of the three upper levels of the recently constructed stack in the northeast courtyard, more than doubling the accommodation for research workers and increasing the space for the Library's own bibliographical workers; \$30,000 annually for the addition to the staff of a dozen high-grade catalogers; and the increase in the salary of the Librarian of Congress to \$10,000. The act of May 14 also carried the full authorized appropriation for indexing the laws of the several states and allows for a general advance of one stage in staff salaries.

The remarkable collection of Chinese literature was also recognized in the act by the inclusion of two positions to provide for a permanent chief of the division and an assistant. Arthur W. Hummel has been appointed to the more important position. The collection has been increased during the year by the Eastern Asiatic library released to it on a paid-exchange basis by the John Crerar Library and by the purchase of the family library of Wang Shu-an of Tientsin, China, comprising 1,668 separate works in 20,000 volumes.

The new northeast bookstack, to which about a million volumes have been transferred, has also permitted the redistribution of practically all the classes in the other stacks, to allow for easier accessibility and prompter service. A very generous policy of permitting access of serious workers to all bookstacks has been followed this year. The library's collection of printed books and pamphlets now numbers 3,726,502, of which 2,500,900 have been shelved. An inventory is now in progress which will be spread out over several years and was initiated with classes E and F (American history) since the circulation of these classes is relatively higher than that of the others.

The year's net accessions amounted to 169,735 books and pamphlets, including 23,731 purchased and 24,851 received by copyright. The fees for registration of copyright, unchanged for over forty years, have been increased from \$1 to \$2 for the registration, including the certificate. The subscription price

of the Copyright Bulletin (*Catalogue of Copyright Entries*) was also advanced from \$5 to \$10 annually.

Notable additions to the Division of Manuscripts include the Horace Greeley collection, Washington's Diary for the year 1762, and the Lincoln family Bible and the Bible used at the inauguration March 4, 1861. The work of transcribing documents in British, French and Spanish archives has been carried forward by Prof. Samuel Flagg Bemis of George Washington University. Two or three years will probably suffice to finish the work of photostating in the British Museum, but the possibilities for facsimiles of documents relating to American history in the Public Record Office are much more expansive. Activities in Paris are restricted to Archives Nationales, Bibliothèque Nationale, and Archives du Ministère des Affaires Étrangères. Work in Spain, in the archives at Simancas, Madrid, and Devilla, is still in a tentative stage. Permission has been granted to have certain facsimiles made in the Russian archives. The first to be ordered were 3,000 pages of the correspondence of the Russian Legation in Washington, 1860 to 1866, relating to the Civil War.

The portion of the Library of Congress now classified under the new classification contains, in round numbers, 2,500,900 volumes. A complete list of other libraries using the L. C. classification, so far as known, numbers more than a hundred. The number of subscribers to printed cards increased from 4,005 to 4,306. A depository set was sent to the Vatican Library.

Gifts and endowments to the National Library, announced in the report of the Librarian, number among the important endowments an additional one from Mr. Archer M. Huntington of \$50,000, the income of which is to provide an honorarium for a "consultant" in the field of Hispanic literature. The first selection for it is Señor Don Juan Riaño y Gayangos, Spanish Ambassador to the United States from 1914 to 1926, and who has continued to reside in the United States since his retirement. Señor Riaño is now on a mission to South America, largely in the interest of the Library's collection.

Appropriations for 1929 include: \$633,265 for salaries (general service), \$108,000 for increase of library, and \$336,000 for printing and binding. The total for the Library and Copyright Office (that alone \$209,440) is \$1,541,905. Appropriations for care and maintenance of the library building (all services) are \$138,082.

The Multilateral Treaty for the Renunciation of War

Readings from various viewpoints suggested by the Cleveland Public Library.

Pamphlets

Kellogg, F. B. French draft of the multilateral treaty: excerpts from an address delivered before the American Society of International Law, Washington, April 28, 1928. U. S. Government Printing Office.

— War prevention policy of the United States: an address delivered before the Council on Foreign Relations at New York City, March 15, 1928. U. S. Government Printing Office.

Page, Kirby. Renunciation of war: an evaluation of the strength and weakness of the recent multilateral treaty. (Christianity and world problems, No. 16.) N. Y. Doubleday, Doran & Co. 1928. 10 cents.

U. S. Department of State. Notes exchanged between the United States and other powers on the subject of a multilateral treaty, June 20, 1927-June 23, 1928.

Magazine Articles

After ten years: Europe and America, by H. F. Armstrong, in *Foreign Affairs*, October, 1928, p. 1-19.

Analyzes the treaty.

American peace proposals, by J. N. Kenworthy, in *Fortnightly Review*, July, 1928, p. 14-23.

Same in *Living Age*, September, 1928, p. 58-61.

Effect of anti-war treaty on American foreign policy, by J. T. Gerould, in *Current History*, October, 1928, p. 120-26.

Includes text of Briand's speech.

Great Britain and the renunciation of war, by C. C. Morrison, in *Christian Century*, September 6, 1928, p. 1065-68.

Is Europe entangling America? A critical study of Secretary Kellogg's treaty to outlaw war, by Hiram Motherwell, in *Outlook*, August 15, 1928, p. 612-13.

Kellogg treaties sanction war, by E. M. Borchart, in *Nation*, September 5, 1928, p. 234-36.

An address before the Williamstown Institute of Politics.

Mr. Kellogg's proposal to the great powers, examined from a legal point of view, by J. H. Van Laer, in *Advocate of Peace*, July, 1928, p. 446-49.

Outlawry of war, in *Round Table*, June, 1928, p. 455-76.

Outlawry of war, by J. H. Harley, in *Fortnightly Review*, September, 1928, p. 289-300.

The pact in its European setting, by H. N. Brailsford, in *New Republic*, September 26, 1928, p. 142-44.

The peace pact, in *Round Table*, September, 1928, p. 727-45.

The peace pact, by George Glasgow, in *Contemporary Review*, July, 1928, p. 112-16.

Signing of the treaty to renounce war: with documents, in *Current History*, October, 1928, p. 1-6.

The war prevention policy of the United States, by F. B. Kellogg, in *American Journal of International Law*, April, 1928, p. 253-61.

Recent numbers of the Foreign Policy Association *News Bulletin*, the League of Nations *News* and the National Council for Prevention of War *News Bulletin*, may also be consulted.

Comparisons in Library Salaries

TEACHERS' salaries are now easily from 25 to 75 per cent higher than library salaries. In other occupations library salaries suffer in comparison, according to figures taken from the May, 1927, *Research Bulletin* of the National Education Association, writes Charles H. Compton, chairman of the A. L. A. Committee on Salaries, in the A. L. A. *Bulletin* for December. The average salary for an assistant in the public libraries of 34 large American cities is \$1,434 a year. The average salary for an assistant in the group of 43 medium-sized public libraries is \$1,212 a year. The average salary of U. S. Government employees is \$1,809; of high-grade clerical workers, \$1,908; the average earnings of trade union members, \$2,502; average earnings of workers in 25 manufacturing industries, \$1,309; average income of all gainfully occupied persons, \$2,010; average income of all persons having incomes of less than \$3,000, \$1,693; and the average salary of routine clerical employees working under supervision, \$1,200.

Authors' First Editions

The New York Public Library is to be custodian for a collection of signed first editions of American authors which will be made by the Authors' League of America as a memorial library. Every member of the Authors' League is called upon, by arrangement between the two organizations, to deposit with the New York Public Library a copy of each published book together with the manuscript, the manuscripts to be kept in special air-tight cases. The New York Public Library has agreed to receive, catalog and preserve the collection as a separate entity.

In the Library World

Rhode Island

IN the heart of the Wanskuck neighborhood of Providence, R. I., there was dedicated on November 20th, 1928, an attractive and "efficiently utilitarian" branch library building. The new Wanskuck Branch of the Providence Public Library is a brick building with colonial porch which stands at the corner of Veazie and Hyacinth Streets. Situated back from the street, it has a most inviting aspect, according to the account in *Books for All* for December. It is entered almost on the level of the sidewalk. On either side of the entrance are provided "show windows," which can be lighted at night, in which are placed new books. Within the building, the main floor has no partitions extending to the ceilings, but glass partitions mark off the Children's Room on the right, and the general reading room on the left, from the central portion. The reference room is in a projection at the rear. All books on this floor are on open shelves, the shelving capacity being about 12,000, but in the basement story, which has a separate entrance, there is shelving for more. The basement also contains a community room. The architects were Howe and Church, and the builders the Balchin Construction Corporation. The cost of the land was \$2,200, of the building about \$56,000 and of the furnishings about \$4,200, making a total of approximately \$62,400.

The Wanskuck Branch was first opened on July 5, 1900, being the second branch of the Providence Public Library in order of founding. The Wanskuck Company turned over as nucleus for the new branch the 1,117 volumes which that company had previously operated as library for its employees, and placed at the disposal of the library trustees the building occupied for eighteen years, with no charge for rent, janitor service, light or heat. At the dedication exercises, at which all community organizations were represented, reference was made to the notable service rendered by the branch librarian, Mrs. Catherine B. Merrick, who has held that position since 1912 and has by her efforts made the library the veritable community center which it now is.

New Jersey

INCREASE in the growth of New Jersey libraries since 1915 has been more striking in some counties than in others because in 1915 some counties were further behind in library service. The total increase for the State has been 297 per cent in circulation and 284 per cent in ap-

propriation, and the number of people without local library service has been decreased from over 700,000 to under 200,000, and this in spite of the fact that the population has increased more than 500,000. The decrease in the last item has been due to the establishment of county libraries in nine counties.

The great increase in circulation in Monmouth, Morris, Camden, Atlantic, Cape May, Ocean and Burlington counties both in total amount of circulation and in number of books per inhabitant is due to county libraries having been established in those counties. A county library means that library service is available to every inhabitant of the county from a station within at least a mile. Mercer and Hunterdon have established such service, but as these libraries were not established until November 1927, there are no figures of circulation to be included in this report. This circulation does not include circulation from the State Department of Library Extension or State traveling library centers.

The extraordinary amount of circulation in these counties is caused somewhat by the fact that they are largely resort counties with a large cottage population in the summer time which is not counted in the year-round population.

The percentage of non-fiction read has risen 15 per cent between 1915 and 1927. A system of special loans has been arranged by which, thru the public library commission, the books from one library become available to patrons of others. This makes it possible for the smallest library to give service in study and research work.

Ohio

IN spite of the lack of any appropriation, due to the governor's veto in 1927 and the failure of the General Assembly to pass the appropriation over the veto, the Ohio State Library has continued to serve as a public library to the state, as it has since 1896 without interruption except for the month of July, 1927. The library was opened again the next month by volunteer service. For the eleven months ending July 1, 1928, 626 collections were issued from the Traveling Library division aggregating 56,609 volumes, a larger number than the average sent out in the preceding six years, reports C. B. Galbreath, acting state librarian, in the Ohio State Department of Education *Better Schools Bulletin* for November, 1928. Between July 1, 1928, and November 1

of the same year, 515 collections have been issued aggregating 42,785 volumes. This work has been done under the handicap of the impression abroad that all divisions of the state library have been closed.

The reference work in the General Library in the state house has been carried on much as usual. Citizens frequenting the library have been served and the demands of patrons throughout the state have received prompt attention. The division is open to members of clubs and public libraries and they may forward their requests to the state library with assurance that they will be served as in the days when adequate appropriations were made for this work.

THE *Handbook and Statistical Report of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County* for the year ending June 30th, 1928, takes the place of the library's annual report which will not be issued this year. The reports appear in their present form since they were prepared primarily to show the legislation enacted to make possible the extension of the activities of the public library throughout Hamilton County, Ohio, in 1898 and the growth of these activities since that time. They are indirectly caused by the suit brought to test the validity of the bonds voted in 1926 for the erection of a new \$2,500,000 public library building. The validity of these bonds has been questioned on the grounds that the legislation of 1898 referred to, and under which the library has operated ever since, was "special legislation" which affected Cincinnati and Hamilton County only. The departments of the library's work showing the work in the county are emphasized in the report and the work of other departments referred to incidentally. Each branch has a page of brief statistics and an illuminating illustration. Other pictures show the work of deposit stations.

This library system which undertook in 1898 to serve the County of Hamilton had been in existence in the School District of Cincinnati since 1854. It thus became a pioneer in the county service and the forerunner of what is today recognized as the proper unit of such service—the county library. The Public Library of the School District of Cincinnati therefore ranks with the oldest in the United States, and its book collection is one of the most valuable in an American public library. The levy since 1898 has produced more than six and a half million dollars, all of which has been expended on the library system, in maintenance and management.

The library plant consists at present of a main library building; thirty branch libraries,

of which twelve are in specially erected buildings; 106 book deposit stations in stores, village post offices and other public buildings; 106 book collections in city and county schools, and two book wagons which provide books principally for the use of Hamilton County outside of Cincinnati. Of the branch libraries nine are in incorporated cities and towns in Hamilton County outside of Cincinnati. The largest of these are in Norwood, with a population exceeding 30,000 people, and the city of St. Bernard, of over 10,000 inhabitants. The central library building, completed in 1874, was built to accommodate 250,000 books and now has more than half a million crowded on its shelves. There are a quarter million more books in the branches.

Missouri

FROM George F. Steedman of St. Louis the St. Louis Public Library has just received the most generous gift in its history—that of a valuable library of works on architecture and the allied arts, together with an endowment for its upkeep and funds for constructing an addition to the library building for its storage and use. The total value of the gift will approximate \$50,000. The value of the collection itself can, of course, merely be estimated, but it is probably not less than \$15,000 and may be as great as \$25,000. The endowment fund is \$10,000 and the amount contributed toward building is \$25,000, to which the Library Board will itself add the sum of \$10,000, so that the new addition will cost in the neighborhood of \$35,000. The endowment funds are to be held by the St. Louis Union Trust Company.

The addition to the building, plans for which are in preparation in the office of Mauran, Russell and Crowell, will not be visible from the exterior, as it will occupy part of the interior courtyard. The entrance will be from the present Art Room and the room for shelving and using the collection, which will be known as "The Steedman Library of Architecture," will be somewhat intimate in character, being designed and decorated in the style of a private library, with a large fireplace which will be the first thing that one sees on entering from the Art Room. As many of the books are large and expensive in character, special shelving will be required and is now being designed.

Since the collection is of such value and is intended for the use of students and practitioners of architecture, admission to the Room, just as is the case with the present stack room, will be by card to be obtained from the Librarian. Probably some, though not all, of the

Library's present architectural collection will be shelved in this Room.

Mr. Steedman is well known here as a retired business man of large means, whose interest in the arts has been very vital and of long standing. He is already the donor of the Steedman Traveling Scholarship in Architecture, which is administered by the Architectural Department of Washington University. Wishing to make his collection of architectural works more particularly accessible to the working architect, especially the younger members of the profession whose means would not admit of the assemblage of a large office library on the subject, he chose the public library as the recipient of his gift since it is both topographically and intellectually in closer touch with this class. Architects have for years made extended use of the facilities already contained in the Library, and the establishment of this beautiful room, with its costly and valuable contents, will do much toward confirming the position of St. Louis as an architectural center in the Middle West that it has now begun to occupy.

ARTHUR F. BOSTWICK, *Librarian*.

Minnesota

THE enrolment in the Division of Library Instruction of the University of Minnesota is considerably beyond what was expected in view of the late organization of the division, which prevented any general publicity. During the fall quarter ninety-two were enrolled in one or more courses offered by the Division and accepted for credit in the College of Science, Literature and Arts and the College of Education. Forty-five of these were full-time students in the division. There are thirty-five college graduates from fourteen different colleges. While the greater part of the students come from Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Oklahoma and Texas are also represented among the registrants.

Most of the part-time students are taking groups of courses which will enable them to comply with the regulations of the State Department of Education for certification and part-time librarians in the schools of the State of Minnesota. Courses in reference library work with children, and book selection for adolescents will begin in the winter quarter.

Library Organizations

Southeastern Library Association

BILOXI, MISS., was the scene of the fifth biennial meeting of the Southeastern Library Association, held at the Buena Vista Hotel, Nov. 7th to 10th, with the president, Miss Tommie Dora Barker, in the chair. Whitman Davis of the University of Mississippi welcomed the assembly and Miss Ella May Thornton, state librarian of Georgia, gave the response. A thoroughly delightful address, "The Kingdom of Books," was then made by John Adams Lowe of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Five general sessions were held, one of which was the Book Review Dinner. This has become an institution in this group and, presided over this year by Jessie Hopkins of Atlanta, it quite measured up to former occasions in interest and entertainment. The meetings were so arranged as to break down the usual set and fixed order and allowed for emphasis on discussions from the floor. Essae Martha Culver of the Louisiana Commission was a guest contributor, with an address on "The Function of State Supported Library Agencies," while at the same meeting Charlotte Templeton dealt with the question of "County Library Service in Its Financial Aspects." "The Relation of Public Libraries and Schools Departments in School Library Service," and

"High School Library Standards for the Southern States" occupied the third session and were presented by Mary U. Rothrock of Knoxville, Tenn., and Charles H. Stone of Greensboro, N. C., respectively. The final meeting was occupied with business except for a splendid review of the objectives and accomplishments of the Association given by Louis R. Wilson of the University of North Carolina.

One morning was devoted to sectional meetings, with Margie Helm of Kentucky in charge of college and university libraries, Nora Crimmins of Chattanooga heading public librarians, Mary Frances Cox leading school and children's librarians and Kathleen Thompson of Birmingham conducting the catalogers. These were particularly helpful and satisfactory gatherings.

The incoming officers elected are: Charlotte Templeton, President, Greenville, S. C.; J. T. Marron, vice-president, Jacksonville, Fla., and Margaret Jemison, secretary, Emory University, Ga.

Indiana Library Association

THE thirty-seventh annual conference of the Indiana Library Association, in conjunction with the twentieth annual meeting of the In-

diana Library Trustees Association, opened Wednesday, November 21st, at the Lincoln Hotel, Indianapolis. Ethel Cleland, president of the I. L. A., presided.

Llewellyn Jones, literary editor of the Chicago *Evening Post*, reviewed notable books of the year. The organizations were the guests of the L. S. Ayres Co. for tea and a sight-seeing trip through the store.

Discussion of the steps being taken for a state library building was the theme at the annual banquet Wednesday night. Charles Cassel, Connersville, president of the Indiana Library Trustees Association, presiding. Louis J. Bailey, director of the State Library, described what is being done to get a library building. Separate closing meetings were held Friday morning. A book symposium, with Ethel F. McCollough of Evansville presiding, was held by the librarians' section. The Association recorded its appreciation of the work of the Pacific Northwest Library Association Committee on Subscription Books, and its active sympathy in the aims of the A. L. A. Committee on Subscription Books.

The officers elected for the coming year are: President, Frank H. Whitmore, librarian, East Chicago; vice-president, Florence P. Crawford, librarian, Emmeline Fairbanks Memorial Library, Terre Haute; secretary, Myrtle Weatherholt, librarian, Crawfordsville; treasurer, Caroline Dunn, librarian, Connersville.

At the trustees' meeting Charles Cassel presided. Lawrence F. Orr, Indiana State Board of Accounts, C. D. Billings of Seymour, and Mrs. Grace H. Price of Lafayette discussed the problems of the trustee. A farce entitled *Strained Interlude*, written by Mabel Leigh Hunt of the Indianapolis Library staff, and presented by other members of the staff, was a clever satire on conditions in the state library building.

Carrie E. Scott, children's librarian of Indianapolis, presided at the general session Thursday morning. Dr. Edna Hatfield Edmondson, executive secretary of the Indiana Parent-Teacher Association, discussed the co-operation between the Parent-Teacher Associations and the Public Libraries. Helen M. Clark, Indiana State Library, and Virgil E. Stinebaugh discussed the relation of the school and public library.

Six group luncheons were held in different parts of the city for those interested in the same line of work. These were planned to take the place of the various round tables of former years. The groups covered loan work, branch libraries, county libraries, school libraries and children's work, reference and college work, order and cataloging and library trustees. The afternoon session was held in the Indianapolis

Public Library, Frank H. Whitmore, vice-president of the I. L. A., in charge. Mrs. Demarchus C. Brown of Indianapolis, was the speaker. Her subject was Cambodia and the customs of its people.

At the fourth general session Theodore F. Vonnegut, president of the Indianapolis Board of School Commissioners, presided. The program consisted of an address by Dhan Gopal Mukerji, and spirituals by Millard Burwell of Indianapolis. Officers elected were: President, Mary E. Pelton, Fowler; vice-president, J. V. Keeler, Hammond; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. A. H. Price, West Lafayette.

Abridged from report of LOLA NOLTE, Secretary, Indiana Library Association.

Missouri Library Association

SEVENTY-SIX attendants were registered at the twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Missouri Library Association, held November 15-17, 1928, at Kansas City, but a number of unregistered local library assistants helped to swell the attendance at individual meetings. At the joint meeting with the Library Section of the Missouri State Teachers Association there was an attendance of over ninety. On the association register were presented twenty-one tax-supported public libraries, all the state teachers college libraries, the state university, two private colleges, seven high school libraries, the state library commission, a library school, and two board members.

Among the interesting speakers were Loretta Toomey, Librarian, Buder Branch, St. Louis, who gave a practical and interesting paper on branch library publicity based upon branch experience in a community such that she recommended its application to a village or small town library. The principal exhibit she mentioned consisted of pictures and stories on local history gathered by upper grade children. Attendance of parents when children have work on exhibit was taken advantage of and books on household and other interests brought to their attention. Dr. Bostwick showed the literary map of Missouri in process of compilation and asked to have additions and corrections noted. Purd B. Wright of Kansas City spoke on business books and aids with an interesting list of valuable material, including many government documents. Grace Palmer, librarian of the Southwestern State Teachers College, discussed the organization and use of a picture collection; Vera J. Prout, children's librarian, Kansas City, made a helpful survey of new books for children, and Sadie T. Kent, librarian of the Southeastern State Teachers College, considered high school library problems. A topic of unusual appeal, the World

Peace Pact, was interestingly presented by Dr. Burris A. Jenkins of Kansas City.

The Association furnished as a speaker for the Friday morning session of the Teachers Association, A. G. Yawberg, superintendent Cuyahoga County Schools, Cleveland, Ohio, whose address was on "Creative Teaching Thru County Libraries." He outlined the working out of the county law in his county in Ohio with branches, stations or school room sets in all schools answering the extensive demand for books and reference material, made by the new type of creative teaching and necessitating more and better trained librarians. Joy E. Morgan of the N. E. A., who was on the same program, took for his topic "Little Journeys to the Schools That Are Prophecies," in which he made the statement that "At no other point in American life can we spend a little money so effectively as in a library." Interesting addresses were made by Dr. Thomas Alexander of Columbia University and Professor Hughes Mearns of New York University.

No convention is complete without some social activity, and this was most successfully supplied by the Kansas City Library Staff, who acted as chauffeurs through parks and residence sections of the city to three of their attractive branches. The president for the coming year is William H. Collins of the University of Missouri Library.

Abridged from report of GERTRUDE G. DRURY, Secretary.

Virginia Library Association

MEETINGS of the Virginia Library Association, Nov. 26-27, were held in the attractive Club House of the Woman's Club on Fairfax Avenue, Norfolk. The increased attendance at the meeting and the number of new members added to the roll indicate the deep interest in library matters which exists among the library workers of the state.

Dr. Swem, librarian of the College of William and Mary and president of the Association, gave a very interesting and instructive talk on the college libraries of Virginia. He called attention to the fact that several colleges of the state are to have new buildings. The recent adoption by the State Board of Education of very definite standards for high school pupils in library science and the enthusiastic interest shown in the Association and its aims by the various women's organizations of the state are encouraging signs.

Leslie Stevens of the Virginia State Library gave an interesting account of her work in the organization of school libraries and county

libraries throughout the state. Miss Dinwiddie, assistant librarian of the University of Virginia and secretary-treasurer of the Association, spoke on recent progress in training courses for librarians, outlining training as developed by apprentice classes, summer courses and library schools. Other speakers of the morning were C. W. Dickinson, supervisor of textbooks and school libraries, on the subject of school libraries in Virginia; Bessie L. Booker, librarian, The Charles H. Taylor Memorial Library, Hampton, on county libraries in Virginia; Mary D. Pretlow, librarian, Norfolk Public Library, on public libraries in Virginia, and Thomas P. Ayer, librarian, Richmond Public Library, on the organization of his library.

After luncheon, members reassembled in three round-table meetings, Harry Clemons, librarian of the University of Virginia, conducting the college librarians' round table. This group enjoyed a brief study of George Alan Works' *College and University Library Problems*, the chapters having been prepared in advance by several college librarians of the state. Virginia Gee, children's librarian, Richmond, led the children's libraries round table. W. L. Hall, assistant librarian, Virginia State Library, Richmond, led the cataloging section for school libraries.

The social feature of the conference was a banquet on Tuesday night at the Fairfax Hotel, with Robert M. Hughes of Norfolk as the toastmaster.

On Wednesday morning Cornelia Adair, former president of the Virginia Education Association, entertained the Association with an address on the place of libraries in education.

The following were elected for office for the year 1929: President, Virginia Harnsberger, librarian, State Teachers College, Harrisonburg; first vice-president, Thomas P. Ayer, librarian, Richmond Public Library; second vice-president, Esther Wilson, librarian, Portsmouth Public Library; secretary-treasurer, Mary Louise Dinwiddie, assistant librarian, University of Virginia.

MARY LOUISE DINWIDDIE, *Secretary.*

South Dakota Library Association

STATE library service in many phases was discussed at the meeting of the South Dakota Library Association at Sioux Falls, October 23-25. "Library Service for the Rural People of South Dakota" was the keynote of the convention. Introducing this topic for discussion was W. F. Kumlien, professor of Rural Sociology, State College, Brookings, in a talk

on "Rural Library Problems in South Dakota." His bulletin, *Equalizing Library Opportunities in South Dakota*, summarizes what has been done in this state and gives a forecast of future possibilities and needs. Mr. Kumlien is very emphatic in his belief that county libraries are the means of supplying this large demand on the part of rural people for library service.

To make the convention slogan, "A County Library in Every County in South Dakota," a reality, the convention voted to make its principal objective better financial support for the South Dakota Free Library Commission. The Commission must have funds for work with the rural population without library service, and to allow Leora J. Lewis, field librarian, to spend more time out in the state helping to promote campaigns for county libraries and getting their organizations under way.

Henry O. Severance, University of Missouri, Columbia, was the principal speaker. Improvement and standardization of high school libraries in the state was stressed. The Association was entertained by the Sioux Falls Library Board and the people of Sioux Falls. The outstanding entertainment was a gift to the convention by Christenson and Dempster's Book Shop, Sioux Falls, of a lecture-recital by Carl Sandburg.

Chicago Regional Group of Catalogers

CHICAGO Regional Group of Catalogers and Classifiers met for dinner on Nov. 19 at the Chicago Nurses' Club. Forty-seven members and guests were present, including several of the sixteen new members. The president presented a suggestion from Miss Ver Nooy, president of the Chicago Library Club, that the group join their catalogers' round table at a meeting in January. The Program Committee will probably make the necessary arrangements.

Susan G. Akers, instructor in cataloging and classification, University of Wisconsin Library School—now on leave as a student at the University of Chicago Graduate Library School—was the first speaker of the evening. Her topic, "The Relation Between a Catalog Course for Catalogers and the Work of the Catalog Department," is also the subject of her research this year. The phrase, "A Catalog Course for Catalogers," was brought especially to our attention as the speaker believes that students who expect to become actual catalogers should have one course devoted to their needs and those who do not expect to prepare the catalog but to work with it should have

a different course. To this end, Miss Akers wishes to determine: 1. What is now taught in cataloging courses that is never used afterwards by the cataloger; 2. What is learned with difficulty in class and easily learned in actual work; 3. How a person with no one to teach her, can learn for herself.

Eleanor S. Upton, Yale University Library, also a student this year at the Graduate Library School, spoke on "Yale and Her Books" or "How Yale's Books Affect Her Catalogers."

The president expressed the pleasure of the Group in welcoming these two fellow-workers to Chicago and what we hope will be a happy and profitable year.

IDELLE TAPLEY, *Secretary*.

New York Regional Catalog Group

THE New York Regional Catalog Group held its first meeting of the 1928-1929 season at the Wellesley Club, The Barbizon, on Friday evening, November 23, with eighty-six members present. Isabella K. Rhodes, the vice-president, was in the chair and automatically succeeded to the presidency when a letter from Theresa Hitchler resigning the office of president was read.

Josephine A. Rathbone of Pratt Institute Library School spoke on "The Present Status of Library Education," and reviewed the changes and developments which have taken place in the library schools and in library training since the publication of Dr. Williamson's report in 1923, and the formation of the A. L. A. Board of Education for Librarianship in 1924.

Marion Horton, formerly of the Library School of the Los Angeles Public Library, now on the staff of the School of Library Service, Columbia University, read a paper on "Correspondence Courses in Library Subjects," and stressed the fact that such courses are not get-rich-quick schemes but carefully worked-out programs of study designed principally to supplement the training of persons already in the field.

Selection of students, lack of class discussion, time required to complete a course, etc., were mentioned as problems. The prospectus and application blanks for the correspondence courses offered by the School of Library Service, Columbia University, are to be sent out very shortly.

CONSTANCE BEAL,

Secretary-Treasurer.

The January Forecast

A check list of books of general interest whose publication dates fall during the coming month

(Exact day of issue is given when known)

Art, Biography, Drama, Essays

- Rochemont, Ruth de. *Evolution of Art*. Macmillan. \$6.
 Salaman, Malcolm, and Helen Fogg, editors. *Fine Prints of 1928*. Minton. \$10.
 Lawton, Mary. *Schumann-Heink, the Last of the Titans*. Macmillan. \$5.
 Karsner, David. *Andrew Jackson, the Gentle Savage*. Brentano (15th). \$3.50.
 Mumford, Lewis. *Herman Melville*. Harcourt. \$5.
 Nichols, Robert. *Wings Over Europe*. Covici, Friede.
 Wolfe, Humbert. *Dialogues and Monologues*. Knopf. \$2.50.

Fiction

- Synon, Mary. *Good Red Bricks*. Little (2nd). \$2.
 Rolvaag, O. E. *Peder Victorious*. Harper (4th). \$2.50.
 Bennett, Arnold. *Accident*. Doubleday, Doran (11th). \$2.50.
 Webster, H. K. *The Sealed Trunk, a Mystery Novel*. Bobbs. \$2.
 Freeman, H. W. *Joseph and His Brethren*. Holt. (Book - of - the - Month selection, 10th). \$2.50.
 Undset, Sigrid. *The Snake Pit*. Knopf. \$3.
 Warner, Sylvia Townsend. *The True Heart*. Viking. \$2.50.
 Bacheller, Irving. *The House of the Three Ganders*. Bobbs. \$2.
 Sanborn, Pitts. *Prima Donna: A Novel of the Opera*. 2 vols. Longmans.
 Maurois, André. *The Voyage to the Island of the Articoles* (satire). Appleton. \$1.50.

History

- French, E. Douglas. *The Hunting of the Buffalo*. Appleton (4th). \$3.

Industry

- Ford, Henry. *My Philosophy of Industry*. Coward-McCann. \$2.
 Dunlap, Orrin E. *Advertising by Radio*. Ronald. \$4.

Juvenile

- Beale, Mrs. Blaine. *The Beginnings of Chemistry*. Coward-McCann. \$2.50.

Miscellaneous

- Lynd, Robert S. and Helen M. *Middletown*. Harcourt (11th). \$5.
 Graham, Bessie. *The Bookman's Manual*. Bowker. \$4.
 Wells, H. G. *The Way the World Is Going*. Doubleday, Doran (2nd). \$2.50.
 Shotwell, James T. *War As An Instrument of National Policy*. Harcourt. \$3.50.

Poetry

- Aiken, Conrad. *A Comprehensive Anthology of American Verse*. Modern Library. \$0.95.

Reprints

- Ferrier, Susan. *Marriage*. Everyman's Library. Dutton. \$80.
 Surtees, Robert Smith. *Jorrocks's Jaunts and Jollities*. Everyman's. Dutton. \$80.
 Harris, Joel Chandler. *On the Plantation*. Dollar Library. Appleton (18th). \$1.
 Bennett, Arnold. *Mr. Prohack*. Sun Dial Library. Garden City Pub. Co. \$1.
 Charnwood, Lord. *Abraham Lincoln*. Star Series. Garden City Pub. Co. \$1.
 Guedalla, Philip. *Fathers of the Revolution*. Star Series. Garden City Pub. Co. \$1.
 Slosson, Edwin E. *Creative Chemistry*. Star Series. Garden City Pub. Co. \$1.

Science

- Dorsey, Dr. George A. *Howes and Whys of Human Behavior*. Harper. \$3.50.

Travel

- Cramer, Floyd. *Our Neighbor Nicaragua*. Stokes.
 Rolfe, W. J., and W. D. Crockett. *The Satchel Guide, 1929*. Houghton. \$5.
 Richardson, Capt. Leslie. *Things Seen in Provence*. Dutton. \$1.50.
 Van Dyke, John C. *In Java*. Scribner. \$2.50.
 Seabrook, W. B. *The Magic Island (Haiti)*. Harcourt. \$3.50.
 Forbes, W. Cameron. *The Philippine Islands*. Houghton. \$8.50.
 Anderson, Isabel. *Circling South America*. Jones. \$4.

The Open Round Table

Please Destroy!

ACTING as chairman of a sub-committee on Classification of University Library Personnel, I mailed to those who might be interested, fifty copies of a preliminary draft of classification and specifications for personnel of university libraries. These tentative specifications were sent only for criticisms and suggestions; they were not in final form in any way and most of the sheets will have to be rewritten. There were, unfortunately, a few errors, also.

It is, therefore, earnestly requested that all those who received these preliminary sheets will destroy them. The revised form will be presented to the Committee and to the Council and will be available later. The use of the present sheets may lead to misunderstanding, as they do not form even the report of the sub-committee and have not been adopted either by the Committee on Classification of Library Personnel or the Council.

CHARLES H. BROWN, *Chairman.*

A Time-Saving Filing System

FOR over a year a filing system at the Lincoln Branch of the Peoria (Ill.) Public Library has saved the staff thousands of steps. When the building was remodeled the attic was floored and shelving installed to hold three or four thousand books. To these shelves were retired all the less used books. The collection remaining on the open shelves was now more easily shelved and appeared much more attractive with the deadwood eliminated. The new arrangement seemed ideal.

But the neighborhood is not of the best, and the library building is away from the street and in the center of a small park. The evening hours presented a real problem.

The solution, while not entirely solving the problem, has eliminated all unnecessary visits to the attic stacks and can be applied, with modifications, to many different situations. The book card was taken from each book stored in the attic and filed at the charging desk. Now if an attic book is called for, the attendant has only to look in her file. If the book card is not there, the book is not in, and she has no useless trip to make. If the card is in the file, she draws it out and proceeds to find the book.

Your library may not possess an alarming attic stair, but it is possible to save time and energy by adopting this system in connection

with some or all stack books. To save the greatest amount of time and strength, the file of book cards should be kept as near the point where the call originates as possible. In large libraries this might be on the main level where the stairs or elevators lead to the other stack levels. In stacks where there are two or more means of approach, the location of the card file would have to be placed nearest the most used approach.

We expect this coming year to establish these files of stack book cards in connection with three of our departments in our main library building, since it is not possible to have all the books in the department rooms and the stacks are some distance away.

EARL W. BROWNING, *Librarian,*
Peoria (Ill.) Public Library.

Librarians as Stockholders

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

The question of whether a librarian who controls public funds should hold stock in a corporation from which part of the library purchases are made has arisen in this State. The Director of the Budget of this State has sent me the enclosed letter. Its publication might be of value in other States, owing to the fact that the holding of stock in a corporation by an individual spending public money and authorizing purchases from the corporation is contrary to law in a number of States.

CHARLES H. BROWN, *President,*
Iowa Library Association.

Iowa State College,
Ames, Iowa.

March 29, 1928.

MR. CHAS. H. BROWN, *Librarian, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa:*

I have your letter of March 23, requesting the attitude of this department on the following question:

"Should officials who are the heads of departments supported by State or city funds purchase stock in firms from whom they buy materials in their official capacity?"

In our opinion this would be unethical and against public policy, and almost certain to lead to abuses and should be emphatically discouraged.

E. L. HOGUE,
Director of the Budget.

December 20, 1928.

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

Librarians of small libraries whose book purchases are hampered by scanty funds are often disturbed at not being able to purchase the very reasonable school editions of Mark Twain's works. Harper & Company explain that they are bound by a strict agreement with the Clemens heirs not to sell these cheaper editions to the trade or to public libraries; they may only sell them to schools. The librarian thinks that some one is very short-sighted, but that small consolation does not stretch his book fund.

Attention is again called to the fact that for replacement orders, three English editions are available for each of the popular titles. *Huckleberry Finn* and *Tom Sawyer*. For three shillings and sixpence (90c.) you may obtain the Chatto & Windus editions; for two shillings and sixpence (65c.) those issued by Harrap, while T. Nelson & Sons issued the two titles at "one and six" (40c.) each. Chatto also supplies an attractive unillustrated edition of each at six shillings, but there is no particular saving here when one considers the greater strength of binding in the standard American edition.

The Gary Public Library has just carefully re-examined the three cheaper editions of each title, and our decisions may be of interest to other small libraries that may prefer to buy for branches and replacements from twenty to forty English copies for the price of ten American ones.

The twin titles are not identical at any of the price levels. Differences in paper, margins, typography and spacing must be considered for each, although the exterior format is the same for the pair at each price.

For *Huckleberry Finn* the 2/6 Harrap edition is in every way the equal of our Burt or Grosset popular copyright and is about their size. While the inner margins are wider in the Harrap than in either other edition, the typography of the Nelson 1/6 edition gives a much clearer page than either competitor, and for rebinding consideration the inner margin is about as deep as the 3/6 Chatto edition, which has been printed from older plates. The Gary Library has just ordered forty-five copies of the Nelson *Huckleberry Finn* and ten copies of the Harrap.

On the *Tom Sawyer* editions we made a different choice. The story is shorter and in all three the inner margins are deeper. We discarded entirely the Nelson *Tom Sawyer* as too closely set, but beyond that did not unanimously agree. The plates of the Chatto are more worn than those of their *Huckleberry*

Finn, but our Children's Department preferred the spacing and page appearance of this edition, while the Adult Circulation Department voted for the Harrap. Result, thirty-five copies ordered of the Chatto and twenty of the Harrap.

WILLIAM J. HAMILTON, *Librarian*,
Gary (Ind.) *Public Library*.

Ontario Regional Group of Catalogers

ITS fall meeting was held by the Ontario Regional Group of Catalogers in Toronto on October 27, thirty-one members being present. The meeting took the form of a dinner at which the guest of honor and speaker was Bertha Bassam, lecturer in library science, Library School, Ontario College of Education, University of Toronto, who spoke of the need for such groups both in Canada and the United States as there was still a great lack of appreciation of the real value of a good catalog. She told of the work done by the New York Regional Group and outlined some of its very interesting programmes.

At the close of the meeting a very pleasant social half-hour was spent.

GERTRUDE M. BOYLE, *Secretary*.

Opportunities

No charge is made to LIBRARY JOURNAL subscribers for insertion of notices in this department.

College librarian wishes yearly position. Young woman, university and library school graduate, is finishing the reorganization and recataloging of the library, which, after this year, will offer no constructive problems. Present salary \$175. Must decide soon about accepting reelection. Will be free June 1. Permanent location with growing library and opportunity to use executive experience desired. C.M. 1.

Wanted, experienced cataloguer. Salary dependent upon qualifications. Newberry Library, Chicago.

Library school graduate with good experience in organizing and general library work wishes position as county librarian, department head, assistant librarian or librarian of a smaller library. X.Y. 1.

The Buffalo Public Library has positions for two cataloguers and the position of Head of Technology Department is open. Would like applicants to state training and experience. Further information will be given.

Experienced technology librarian (woman) with general reference experience also, wants position in large public or college library. K.O. 1.

Wanted, position as librarian in small library or assistant in larger library, by responsible young woman with library training and experience, who has also had several years' experience as teacher. Any location. O.Y. 1.

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Among Librarians

Marion F. Batchelder, 1919 Simmons, has been appointed librarian of the Stevens Memorial Library, North Andover, Mass.

Judge Henry S. Caulfield, who has just been elected Governor of Missouri, was a director of the St. Louis Public Library from 1917 to 1921. He was also the counsel for the library in the noteworthy tax case before the Missouri Supreme Court last year in which the constitutionality of the present Missouri library law was unanimously upheld by the Court.

Elizabeth Downes, 1917 Simmons, has accepted the position of librarian of the School of Education Library, Boston University.

Ruth G. Edwards, 1926 Simmons, is now assistant librarian at Black Hills Teachers College, Spearfish, S. D.

Hortense F. Eggman, St. Louis 1920, has joined the staff of Washington University Library as reference librarian.

Marion H. Fiery, 1917 Pratt, who has been in charge of the children's department at E. P. Dutton's for three years, goes on January first to Alfred A. Knopf's to organize a children's book department there. Miss Fiery, prior to her service with Dutton's, spent three years at the New York Public Library, one of them as children's librarian of the Mott Haven branch.

Mme. L. Haffkin Hamburger, professor of Library Science at the Institute for Library Science of the All Union Lenin Memorial Library, has resigned to continue her library activities elsewhere and especially to put more time on literary work on library topics. Her address is 3d Tverskaja Yamskaja 52, Moscow, U. S. S. R.

Frank P. Hill takes a leave of absence for needed recuperation, under direction of his physician, from his duties as Chief Librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library for three months from January 1. The time will be spent in the South in entire separation from library work, after which it is expected that he will return to work at his previous efficiency.

Helen Craig James, 1915 New York State, at present in charge of the reference desk, New York State Library, will join the staff of the New York State Teachers College Library February 1.

Corinne Kittelson, 1910 Wisconsin, succeeds Nonvart Tashjian as chief cataloger of the Kansas City Public Library.

Rosalie Mumford, 1904 New York State, has returned to the order department of the Detroit Public Library after a leave of absence of two years.

Eleanor Custis Shallcross, St. Louis 1923, librarian of the College of the Sacred Heart, appointed secretary and reviser for the St. Louis School, a position held for the past two years by Dorothy Whitis Parks, class of 1917.

Marion M. Spear, St. Louis 1919, appointed county librarian, Antigo, Wis.

Eunice Weis, St. Louis 1915, has been made librarian of the new Baden Branch, St. Louis Public Library.

Mildred W. White, 1923 Pratt, has been appointed librarian of the Grover Cleveland High School at Caldwell, N. J.

British Librarians

L. Stanley Jast, Chief Librarian of the Manchester Free Public Library, has been for a fortnight in America inspecting American libraries and plans. Traveling with Mr. Jast was Councillor Shephard of the Library Board and the architect of the new circular building which Manchester is at last to erect on the long-disputed site. Mr. Jast has been an international figure in library circles since his participation in the A. L. A. Conference at St. Louis in 1904 and has been cordially welcomed in the libraries which he has visited. Mr. Jast and Councillor Shephard returned by the *Aquitania* Dec. 29.

Herbert Jones, for more than forty years the chief librarian of the Kensington (England) Public Libraries, died September 6th. Serving first with the North Kensington—then the Heywood—Public Library in 1874, he had spent 54 years in library work at the time of his death. He became a member of the Library Association Council in 1894, and was once vice-president of the Association. The writer of the obituary note in the *Library World* touches upon his independence as a debater on library topics, to the extent that he sided with the booksellers on the "net books" question and did much to postpone the real consideration of English librarians' claims. He turned to librarianship from an art career and designed the menu cards for the special events of the Association, in particular those used for the banquet once given to Andrew Carnegie.

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Current Literature and Bibliography

IN the November issue of *More Books*, the bulletin of the Boston Public Library, Alice M. Jordan of that library writes entertainingly of "Children's Books, To-day and Yesterday," mentioning hornbooks, chapbooks, the publications of John Newbery, the history of early children's books in Boston, which bears a close relation to the political situation in the Revolutionary period, and public and private collections. Among these latter Dr. Rosenbach's is matchless, containing as it does, among other treasures, the only copy except one known to exist of Franklin's *Story of the Whistle*, printed in France in 1775, and the original manuscript of Hawthorne's *Wonder Book for Boys and Girls*.

COMPILED by William Stetson Merrill of the Newberry Library, Chicago, the *Code for Classifiers* now appears in book form, with the imprint of the A. L. A. (cl., 128p., \$1.60). The present edition, greatly enlarged over the 1914 mimeographed form and entirely revised and rearranged, has been critically read in manuscript by several experienced classifiers and approved by the Cataloging and Classification Committee of the A. L. A. It is not a separate classification but is a first attempt to formulate principles by which consistency may be maintained by the classifier in assigning books to their appropriate places in a system of classification. It is not bound up with any system and may be applied to any of them, says the compiler in his foreword. The arrangement of topics, however, follows in general the Dewey Decimal Classification and Dewey numbers are given.

SELECTED and compiled by the Parents' Bibliography Committee of the Child Study Association of America, the new revision of the *Selected List of Books for Parents and Teachers*, first published in 1914, is an annotated bibliography of unusual value on adolescence, child study, exceptional and unadjusted children, play and recreation, sex education, and other problems. The interesting supplementary list of fiction and biography is not annotated. Supplementary reading under each topic has been added for individuals professionally engaged in some form of parental education as well as for parents who may wish to consult the more technical literature. All books listed will be found in the Alice Morgenthau Ebrich Memorial Library at the Headquarters of the Association, 54 West 74th Street, New York City (pap., 78p., 35c.).

A WELCOME addition to the not too-well-stocked shelf of library plays is Maude Stewart Beagle's *The Book Revue*, originally written for the annual celebration of Children's Book Week in 1927 at South Junior High School, Flint, Mich. (Wilson, pap., 31p., 50c.) The pageant is a full evening's performance when all the choruses and specialties are used, but any part may be omitted without affecting the pageant in any way. The costumes are copied from the illustrations in the books represented, forming an interesting and spectacular show.

The scheme of the pageant permits the appearance of many favorite characters of children's literature, who come to Jimmy Slack, an "average boy," and represent to him humor, pathos, realism, romance, and even geography and history, in a way which makes these essential characteristics of books much clearer to him than was the case in the Prologue.

LIBRARIANS who are undertaking the collection of publications on international co-operation will be interested to learn that publications of the Institute of Intellectual Cooperation of Paris are available in the United States thru the World Peace Foundation, 40 Mt. Vernon Street, Boston. These include in English editions: *University Exchanges in Europe*; *Notable Books Published in Various Countries*; *Bulletin for Scientific Relations*, and in French, *La Coopération Intellectuelle et les Beaux-Arts*, the museum magazine, *Museion*, and other miscellaneous titles.

The Foundation has also added to its stock of international documentation the bulletins of the International Commission for Air Navigation, the official documents of the Reparations Commission and publications of the International Hydrographic Bureau. Lists of any or all of these groups of publications will be supplied to librarians, without charge, on request.

Wanted

MRS. INA ROBERTS would like to receive from libraries copies of film, theater or other current events, bookmarks issued, also stories of film and theater cooperation. This information is to be used for accounts of library co-operation with films and theaters written by Mrs. Roberts and published at intervals in the *Billboard* and the *Motion Picture News*. Please send this material to Mrs. Ina Roberts, Publicity Representative, Cleveland Public Library.

Important A. L. A. Publications, 1928

Anniversaries and Holidays

A calendar of days and how to observe them. References to material to be found in more than a thousand books. Carefully indexed and "cross-referenced." Valuable in every library and school. 308 p. Cloth, \$6.

School Library Year Book, No. 2

Brings together standards for measuring the adequacy or effectiveness of school library service. Tells in some detail how school libraries are supervised in four representative cities and in five widely scattered states. Discusses school library progress. Contains a directory of school librarians. 191 p. Paper, \$1.65.

Periodicals for the Small Library

Fifth edition, revised and rewritten. Critical estimates of 198 magazines selected by vote of more than 200 collaborators. Sections devoted to general magazines and to agricultural, educational, business and technical journals. 96 p. Cloth, 90c; paper, 65c.

Care and Binding of Books and Magazines

A pamphlet prepared by the A.L.A. Committee on Bookbinding. 60 p. Paper, 50c; 10 copies, 35c each.

Not Previously Announced

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Third revised edition, Manual of Library Economy No. 12, by Arthur E. Bostwick. Bibliography. 16 p. Paper, 35c; 25 or more, 20c each.

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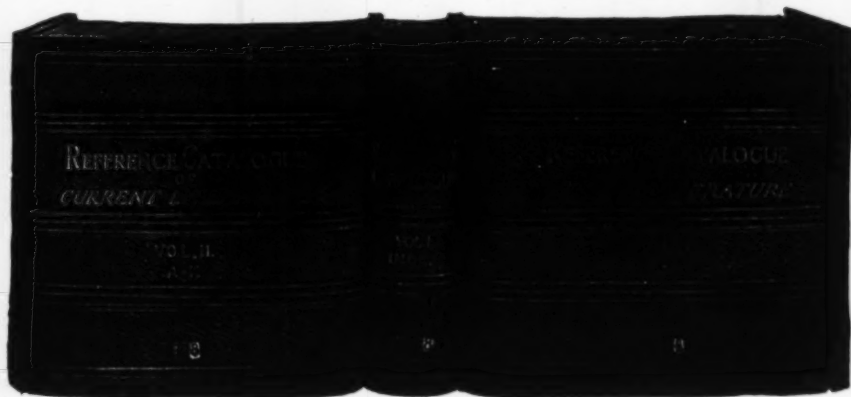
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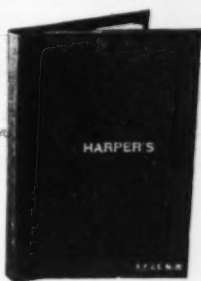
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with an Essay on Book Collecting by John T. Winterich
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